Whore of Babylon in Bible Prophecy

A Book of Revelation Mystery Revealed

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DEDICATION

To you dad and mom who are now in glory, you both made this book possible.

INTROUCTION

The Whore of Babylon and her judgement are described in Revelation 17 and 18. It is a major prediction in Bible Prophecy. The passage has been exposited by theologians, teachers and all who write on end time Bible Prophecy. I too have written on these passages.

In March of 2017, the door opened for me to visit Rome and the Vatican. I was able to attend the 60th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, which established the European Union, which was a major European Union event along with "the March for Europe" where citizens came from around the EU to march for the EU's move forward. I toured Rome and visited the Vatican and Vatican Museums.

The verses of Revelation 17 and 18 came to life as never before after seeing Rome for myself. After leaving Rome I embarked on extensive research and study of the city and its history. The finished product is this book, which reveals insights into the Whore of Babylon along with her identity and details you will not find anywhere else.

If Rome showed me anything it is the fulfillment of the prophetic Word to the letter. The Word of God never ceases to amaze me in its accuracy and dimension. It truly is a living Word.

We are living in a unique time in history whereas never before so much knowledge is at our fingertips and can be attained with the click of a mouse. Research that would take years now only takes months and days. With the proliferation of knowledge also comes the ability to understand the missed

details in Bible Prophecy and get their full meaning as never before. So, it is with understanding the full meaning of the Whore of Babylon who is wickedness in the eyes of God and the judgment that will come upon her.

1 BABYLON- ITS ORIGIN

The Whore of Babylon obviously originates from Babylon and before we look at her we will look at what the Bible teaches about the Whore we will examine the roots of the city itself. In the book of Genesis we see the origins of Babylon. We learn that Babylon was founded by Nimrod who was the grandson of Ham; Noah's wicked son.

Genesis 10:6-10 provides the origin of Babylon. Genesis 10: 6-7 begins:

The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. 7 The sons of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabtechah; and the sons of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan.

Mizriam was the Hebrew name for Egypt. We begin to see that from Ham come nations that will in time afflict the nation of Israel and will also lead the Israelites astray in their idolatry.

The Bible records of Nimrod and his kingdom of Babel in verse 8-12.

8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth. 9 He was a mighty hunter before the LORD; therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD." 10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. 11 From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, 12 and Resen between Nineveh and Calah (that is the principal city).

The verse tells us that Cush, Noah's oldest son, begot Nimrod. The name Nimrod in the Hebrew means rebellion or valiant. In family birth order the oldest son is closest to the father in age and as the oldest more is expected of the first born. Generally they receive more time from the parent than any other child born to them.

It is no surprise that Nimrod's name means rebellion. We see the same evil that was in his grandfather characterize him in part because he would receive the teachings and values or lack of them from his father, which also come from the father's father.

So what was Ham's Sin that Nimrod would acquire?

Ham's Sin

Ham was the son of Noah who sinned against his father. Noah had too much to drink and fell asleep naked. Ham upon seeing his naked father most likely made fun of him and told his other two brothers. On hearing Ham's mockery of his father instead of joining in they picked up Noah's garment and walked backwards and covered him. God then cursed Noah's son Canaan (Genesis 9:20-25.) Some have speculated that sinful acts took place in the tent, or that Canaan was somehow involved. It could be that he was part of this mock fest of Noah or because he was like his father and he was cursed. The Canaanites went onto give Israel a good deal of trouble in the land of Israel.

We see from Ham's actions an act that is not only immoral but a person who lacks boundaries, which can be said for all serious sinful actions and crimes. Noah was passed out sleeping naked in a position that was unbecoming and

private. Shem and Japhet respected their father's dignity and privacy by walking backwards to not take a glance at their father in this undignified position and they covered him.

In our society one's dignity is guarded and for this reason sick and terminally ill patients who are cared for in hospitals are covered up while they are incapacitated and unable to care for their bodily functions. Medical workers are trained to guard the dignity of the person they care for by keeping them covered when while they are compromised health wise. A person is even guarded after death and for this reason medical and rescue workers cover the body of the deceased. In Noah's compromised moment Ham attempted to make his father a spectacle and shame him.

Ham was making fun of his father, totally disrespecting him by turning his nakedness and drunkenness into a spectator event. He wanted his brothers to join in with his viewing his father as looking ridiculous. It was a moment for Ham of total disrespect. It revealed his rebellion and disdain for his father's authority. It violated one of the ten commandments of honoring your father and mother. For it Canaan was cursed to be a servant as all underachievers who never achieve due to their rebellious attitudes and lifestyles.

Thus, from Ham would come Cush, Egypt, the Canaanites and through Ham's grandson the ultimate in rebellion against God: Babylon. We also see coming from Ham Godless nations steeped in idolatry.

Nimrod would not only found Babylon but also founded Assyria and built Nineveh: other nations steeped in idolatry. These cities would cause Israel the most grief and God would use them to judge the nation.

Nimrod becomes the founder of Babel or Babylon. He is like another hunter in

the Bible and that is Esau who became the father of the Arab nations. Nimrod was called a mighty hunter in Genesis 10:9, while Esau was called a cunning hunter. Genesis 25:27.

In Genesis 11: 1-9 we get the account of the Tower of Babel, which sheds light on Babylon it reads:

Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. 4 And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.”

5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the LORD said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.” 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. 9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.

Babel, founded by Nimrod and like his name which means rebellion, in an act of defiance of the Holy God they tried to be like Him in attempting to build a tower to reach to heaven.

The Bible tells us “they had brick for stone and asphalt for mortar.” Meaning it is

not the real solid building materials and are the cheap and inferior replacements, which is a depiction of Babylon and its teachings that men and women follow. It would be the source of the Whore of Babylon and all false religion.

We see a picture of the man who started Babylon, along with his father and uncles, Nimrod's uncle started Egypt, and Nimrod as both rebellious and valiant and following the family tradition of would start the land of Babylon and other nations steeped in idolatry.

We would see Babylon coming to judge Israel at the end of the Kingdom period in Israel's history. It is the place that the book of Daniel begins and where we God gives Nebuchadnezzar the vision of the empires that would succeed Babylon and control Israel and the visions would depict the final world empire that will lay siege to Israel and set up the abomination of desolation in the Third Temple. This empire that Daniel describes with great iron teeth and exceedingly dreadful and terrible who conquers many nations and destroys the Holy People. It is this empire that is joined with the Whore of Babylon depicted in Revelation 17 and 18. Her appearance on the Beast of Revelation depicts her significant role.

2 KING OF BABYLON-LUCIFER- ANTICHRIST

While the prophet Daniel establishes Babylon as parallel with the final world power and provides many details of its structure; Jeremiah 51 predicts Babylon's judgment. He prophesizes against the literal land that once existed, as well as its latter- day counterpart. As with Tyrus, whose king God identifies as Satan, God refers to the king of Babylon as Lucifer. The Antichrist is also "the King of Babylon." Isaiah 14:4-6 records his evil rule and conquest:

4That you will take up this proverb against the King of Babylon, and say, How the oppressor has ceased! The golden city ceased! 5 The Lord has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of the rulers. 6 He who struck the people in wrath with a continual stroke, He who ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted and no one hinders.

The passage later identifies Satan as the King of Babylon, and describes Satan's fall from heaven. Isaiah 14:12-17 continues:

12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!

How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven,

I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' 15 Yet you shall be brought

down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

16 “Those who see you will gaze at you, And consider you, saying:

‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms, 17 Who made the world as a wilderness And destroyed its cities,

Who did not open the house of his prisoners?’

In Scripture Babylon is dimensional. It is viewed both politically, economically, and spiritually and is represented by the Whore of Babylon. We see the Bible’s depiction drawing on true facts about the ancient Empire and the idolatrous worship that went on there. It’s idolatry infected Israel and drew the Israelites away from the God of Abraham and caused them to sin against Him.

In examining the details about ancient Babylon, we can pinpoint the characteristics of the revived Roman empire, which will be the final world empire.

We also learn the meaning of the evil Whore of Babylon and see her role in Babylon and in the each of the empires that followed and especially in the final revived Roman Empire that will launch the Antichrist.

In the Bible we see the King of Babylon associated with Satan. As Christ gives Himself for His Bride and joins with her in forever union, the King of Babylon has his Whore who he later discards and destroys to exalt himself. We see many

contrasts in the Bible of God and Satan. Along with them opposite God's blessed land of Israel is Satan's unholy land of Babylon and as Jesus has the Bride of Christ, the Antichrist has the Whore of Babylon.

3 RELIGIOUS-SOCIAL-POLITICAL BABYON

Babylonian gods and occult practices

Idolatry, Immorality, and sorcery, imprinted Babylonian society. The Babylonians were idolatrous, with innumerable gods. Historian Will Durant numbered their gods around 65,000. The nation was famous throughout the ancient world for astronomy. They were astrologers first and foremost. Sorcerers and necromancers were more popular than physicians.

Babylonians were also heavily superstitious. Divination and the interpretation of dreams were common practice as Hepatoscopy, a favorite Babylonian method of divination, involved examining the livers of animals. Ezekiel confirms these Babylonian practices in declaring: “For the king of Babylon stands at the parting of the road, at the fork of the two roads, to use divination: he shakes the arrows, he consults the images, he looks at the liver” (Ezek.21:21).

Social Babylon

God condemned all three aspects of Babylonian society—political, religious, and social. Besides being a hub for international trade, and religiously devoted to the Queen of Heaven, Babylonian society was immortal, steeped in superstition, divination, idolatry, and sexual promiscuity. The morals of Babylon shocked Alexander the Great, himself a drunkard. Temple prostitutes practiced sacred prostitution in Babylon until abolished by Constantine. Babylonians engaged in considerable premarital experience. Poor men prostituted their daughters for money. The indulgence in fleshly pleasures abounded.

Babylonian men acted effeminate. They wore their hair as long as the women did, dyed and curled it, perfumed their flesh, rouged their cheeks, and adorned themselves with necklaces, bangles, earrings, and pendants. This also describes many of today's rock groups, transvestites, transsexuals, and homosexual drag queens.

In Europe today, materialism and superstition abound. Italian housewives practice forms of divination such as divining oil to read a migraine headache or determining the sex of a baby by reading the movements of a needle over a pregnant woman's womb.

French society is one of the best educated in the world. Yet, in one year ten million French citizens consulted clairvoyants and astrologers. They spent three times as much on faith healers as they spent on family doctors. Almost half of the French population believes in faith healing. One in four believes in clairvoyants, and one in three believes in astrology. Many believe in the power of faith healers, astrologers, and palmists. In France, as many as sixty corporations use an organization called Divinitel, which employs astrology and tarot card reading for the recruitment of executives.

In European society, extramarital affairs are so common that spouses expect each other to have lovers. Europeans view Americans' disdain for infidelity as being out of touch with the facts of life. Germany has legalized prostitution. Hard rock, punk, and new wave all originated in Europe, and their dress and music have influenced groups in the US and around the world.

The Green parties in Europe have revived a form of idolatry that originated with the Greeks: earth worship. To the Greeks, she was a goddess; earth as mother. Green policies for the preservation of the earth began in West Germany, spread through Europe and then into America. Ironically, the earth that these groups

take such pains to preserve for future generations God will destroy. Mother Earth cannot save anyone from the coming Tribulation.

Babylon Commercial Hub

Babylon was the commercial hub of the Near East. Trade and commerce increased its wealth. The invention of wheeled carts allowed trade to expand from local to foreign commerce. Nebuchadnezzar helped Babylonian businesses by improving the highways. Countless caravans brought to Babylon's shops half the world's products.

Under Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon became a thriving and prosperous marketplace. Babylon, referred to in ancient times as "a great city," drew the nations of the Mediterranean world into closer contact. Notice the ancient's reference to Babylon as "a great city" which is also cited in Revelation 7:18:

18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city, which reigns over the kings of the earth."

God views Babylon in a spiritual sense and it leads men and women astray in its idolatry in both its religion and goods. With prosperity can come materialism, covetousness and greed which is another form of idolatry. Like Tyrus, ancient Babylon was renowned for trade.

Revelation records Babylon's fall in the end times. The merchants lament its destruction. The verse reads: "And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her; for no one buys their merchandise anymore" (Revelation 18:11).

Revelation 18:15 reiterates: “The merchants of these things, who became rich by her, will stand at a distance for fear of her torment, weeping and wailing.” The world’s nations will prosper from trading with this political power, which acts as a hub for trade. Ezekiel 27:33 confirms: “When your wares went out by sea, you satisfied many people; you enriched the kings of the earth with your many luxury goods and your merchandise.”

The Antichrist will emerge from the revived Roman Empire, which like Babylon will become powerful through trade and commerce. It will make itself and the world’s merchants rich. Its prosperity extends to the earth’s rulers. Nations will gain wealth by trading with this world power.

After Babylon became great and powerful and was used by God to judge Israel, the Medes and Persians conquered Babylon. The Greeks followed and the Roman Empire came next.

After the Babylonian invasion of Israel a remnant went back to Judah under Cyrus the Great of Persia, recorded in Ezra and Nehemiah but it was never the same. The Second Temple was rebuilt missing the Ark of the Covenant and other key articles and it was expanded under Herod and destroyed under Titus in AD 70.

While physical Babylon was destroyed in Bible Prophecy it became the reference point as other firsts in the Bible. Examples are Adam for man, Rachel for all mother’s in Israel, and Jacob for Israel and we see this pattern repeated in the Revelation with the names of the seven churches of all coming from the original churches started by the apostles.

Babylon invaded Israel and destroyed the first Temple, we see Babylon with one of its heads, the Roman Empire destroy the second Temple. The revived Roman Empire is Babylon in its final stage. It destroys the Whore that has ridden the Beast through all of its history and then is itself destroyed at the time of the second coming of Jesus Christ after which the heavenly kingdom is ushered in and reigns.

4 THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS

Revelation, Chapter 17, describes the Great Whore of Babylon, who represents the false religion of Babylon.

As we examine Revelation Chapter 17 we learn that the Whore sits upon many waters, and is arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold, precious stones, and pearls. Her hand holds a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. Upon her head one sees words written in capital letters: “MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.” Drunk with the blood of the saints (martyrs) she sits upon seven hills (Rev. 17:4-5, 9).

Harlotry, in the Bible, equals idolatry. When Israel worshipped other gods, God compared the nation to a harlot. The book of Hosea elaborates on this precept by its description of an adulterous wife and a faithful husband, symbolic of the unfaithfulness of Israel to God through idolatry.

The bride of Christ is pure and holy, and she embraces truth. The harlot symbolizes all false teaching. She leads individuals away from the true God, to herself. The mother of harlots encompasses all doctrine, beliefs, practices, and ideology that diametrically opposes the truth of Jesus Christ.

Ishtar in Babylon-Isis in Egypt

The Babylonians worshipped one woman in particular. This woman is Ishtar,

whom the Babylonians worshipped for being the mother of God. Her titles include “The Virgin,” “The Holy Virgin,” and “The Virgin Mother.” Ishtar represented the divinity of bounteous motherhood. Those who worshiped her considered her a goddess of war as well as love. She stood over prostitutes as well as mothers. She called herself a caring courtesan. Babylonians represented Ishtar sometimes as a bearded bisexual deity, and sometimes as a nude female offering her breasts to suck. Though Babylonians referred to her as “The Virgin,” this merely meant that her illicit lovers were free from all bonds of wedlock.

Revelation 18:7 states: “She says in her heart, I sit as queen, and am no widow, and will not see sorrow.” Ancient Babylonian prayers referred to her as “Queen of all cities, Queen of Heaven and Earth…Ishtar is great! Ishtar is Queen! My lady is exalted; my Lady is Queen.” Revelation 17:16 names her “the whore.” In later centuries, among Babylon’s enemies, the upper classes called her the “whore of Babylon.”

We begin to see the Biblical references taken from the actual worship of Ishtar such as the reference of the goddess as a Queen and oddly enough even the reference of her as “Whore of Babylon.” Which also has great spiritual significance. We will see more examples as this report continues.

False Religion

False religion led the Israelites from the true God to its teachings. Babylon’s religious symbols and doctrines bore many similarities to those taught in the Scriptures, in part because the Jews lived within Babylonia and Jewish doctrine influenced their myths. Ancient Jews embraced the Babylonian religion, and God rebuked the Jews for following its practices.

During Ahab's reign in Israel's northern kingdom, Jezebel, the Phoenician princess, instituted Baal worship and murdered the prophets of God. Baal was the Sun-god, the Life-Giving One, equivalent to Tammuz. Baal worship was part of Babylonian society and caused the Babylonian invasion of Israel. In Jeremiah 44:17-20, the Jews acknowledged to Jeremiah that they burned incense, and gave drink offerings to the Queen of Heaven. This passage mentions the "Queen of Heaven" four times. Four in the Bible represents the number of man, and man invented religion. From Babylon this mystery-religion spread to all the surrounding nations, and the symbols remained similar, including the image of the Queen of Heaven with a baby in her arms. Astoreth and Tammuz became Isis and Horus in Egypt, Aphrodite and Eros in Greece, Venus and Cupid, in Italy, and bore many other names.

The Babylonian religion spread throughout the lands and took on different names of the gods. They merged with the governments of the ancient empires. These beliefs became state religion and merged with Christianity during the reign of the Roman emperor Constantine. Eventually these combined beliefs became part of the Catholic Church. Historians Will and Ariel Durant recorded that, "Babylonian altars frequently sacrificed a lamb, as the substitute for man who gave it in exchange for his life… priests carried from sanctuary to sanctuary the image of Mardak, and performed the sacred drama of his death and resurrection. They anointed the idols with sweet-scented oils, burned incense before them, and clothed them with rich vestments."

The woman in Revelation 17 sits dressed as a harlot leading to herself the hearts of men. Revelation 17:2 tells us that the world's kings commit fornication with the Great Whore. The fornication committed is not merely physical, but spiritual adultery. As men deny the true Church of Jesus Christ by embracing the harlot's false teaching, they become corrupt in unholy union.

Babylon's political and religious aspects bring down God's judgment. While political Babylon's judgment occurs just prior to the battle at Armageddon and results from the Antichrist's reign, religious Babylon's destruction comes

through the Antichrist and his federation of kings. The Whore's judgement is described as a total annihilation of her.

The Antichrist abolishes religion and persecutes its followers for not worshipping him alone. In Dwight Pentecost's Things To Come: A Study of Bible Eschatology, Pentecost quotes Scofield, who confirms: "Two 'Babylons' are to be distinguished in the Revelation…Ecclesiastical Babylon is 'the great whore'(Rev. 17:1), and is destroyed by political Babylon (Rev. 17:15-18), that the beast may be the alone object of worship (II Thess. 2:3, 4; Rev. 13:15)."

5 ZECHARIAH 5-WHORE OF BABYLON'S TEMPLE

One of the most mysterious prophetic books in the Bible is the book of Zechariah. The imagery and language in Zechariah is difficult to understand and yet it provides important Biblical prophecies. Such as the vision of the woman in the basket which theologians have attempted to interpret.

The woman is none other than the Whore of Babylon and the prediction is that she will have a building or temple in Shinar or Babylon that is the Vatican in Rome that we will examine in further detail. The passage names her Wickedness and also makes indirect reference to her coming judgement.

We are in an exciting time in end time Bible Prophecy, with the explosion of information and research that can literally be conducted at the touch of a mouse, and online concordances and Bible's, the deeper mysteries of the Word of God are able to be deciphered including the one of Zechariah's vision of the woman in the basket. Zechariah's book was written in 520-518 BC after the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians under the reign of Darius.

Vision of the Woman in a Basket

Zechariah 5:5 records:

5 Then the angel who talked with me came out and said to me, "Lift your eyes now, and see what this is that goes forth."

The word for goes forth in the original Hebrew is yatsa and it also means exit. Zechariah is told to look at what is about to exit, depart the land.

Zechariah 5:6 continues:

6 So I asked, “What is it?” And he said, “It is a basket[a] that is going forth.”

The word for basket used is ephah, which was not only a basket but a basket of measurement. We see in Daniel 5:25-26, Daniel interpret the writing on the wall in the Kingdom of Belshazzar, the son of Nebuchadnezzar and tell him that he is numbered and weighed and God is putting an end to his kingdom.

We see the set of balances in Revelation 5:6 and measurement of wheat depicting the judgement of God of famine onto the earth. I have also written in previous articles that the significance of being numbered is always negative and when one has a number versus a name they are numbered for death, such as those who take the mark of the Beast or the Antichrist who is given a number for a name because he is numbered for death from his birth.

This is why the woman is in the ephah, it is a basket of measurement or judgement by God. The ephah going forth means both that this is about to exit as well as judgement is decreed on what is in the basket.

The passage continues, He also said, 7 “This is their resemblance throughout the earth:

Here is a lead disc lifted up, and this is a woman sitting inside the basket9

The woman is sitting on this basket. The KJV renders it, “and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah.”

In Egypt the Queen of Heaven is shown sitting in a basket. According to historian Max Dashu, “This ties in with a lot of the basket ceremonies that women were doing in the women’s mysteries in the Greek world.” In other civilizations we see the Queen of heaven wearing a basket headdress. It was in part over the worship of the Queen of Heaven that God’s judgment came onto Israel and they were taken into captivity by the Babylonians. Consider this passage from Jeremiah 44:15-23:

15 Then all the men who knew that their wives had burned incense to other gods, with all the women who stood by, a great multitude, and all the people who dwelt in the land of Egypt, in Pathros, answered Jeremiah, saying: 16 “As for the word that you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD, we will not listen to you! 17 But we will certainly do whatever has gone out of our own mouth, to burn incense to the queen of heaven and pour out drink offerings to her, as we have done, we and our fathers, our kings and our princes, in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. For then we had plenty of food, were well-off, and saw no trouble.

18 But since we stopped burning incense to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have been consumed by the sword and by famine.” 19 The women also said, “And when we burned incense to the queen of heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did we make cakes for her, to worship her, and pour out drink offerings to her without our husbands’ permission?”

20 Then Jeremiah spoke to all the people—the men, the women, and all the people who had given him that answer—saying: 21 “The incense that you burned in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem, you and your fathers, your kings and your princes, and the people of the land, did not the LORD remember them, and did it not come into His mind? 22 So the LORD could no longer bear it, because of the evil of your doings and because of the abominations which you committed. Therefore, your land is a desolation, an astonishment, a curse, and without an inhabitant, as it is this day. 23 Because you have burned incense and because you have sinned against the LORD, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, in His statutes or in His testimonies, therefore this calamity has happened to you, as at this day.”

Along with Baal worship, the worship of the Queen of Heaven was clearly identified and condemned.

Zechariah 5:7 reads, “Here is a lead disc lifted up,” This is to show the significance of the lead disk. and this is a woman sitting inside the basket”; we have already determined this is the Queen of Heaven who Israel sinned against God with Zechariah 5:8 continues, “then he said, “This is Wickedness!”

Spiritual adultery is wickedness. This is a violation of the first commandment that one should have any other gods before the God of Glory. The woman represents false religion i.e. idolatry that takes one from the true God and which Israel sinned with and committed the sin that God hated and judged.

The verse continues. “And he thrust her down into the basket and threw the lead cover over its mouth. “

Notice it is the angel who pushes the woman down into the basket and takes the lead disk and covers it so that she will not escape from the basket. Removing it far from Israel the lead disc representing the weight of her evil or its measurement that is judged in the ephah. The disc also acts to separate her from the land of Israel in which she has no part.

Zechariah 5:9 next describes:

9 Then I raised my eyes and looked, and there were two women, coming with the wind in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork, and they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven.

The two women would represent Israel's Northern kingdom- Samaria is Oholah, and Southern Kingdom-Judah -Jerusalem is Oholibah of Ezekiel 23 and both are identified as spiritual harlots.

This was the sin that brought God's judgement and these two women represent the judged land. This was in contrast to the woman in Revelation 12 who also represents Israel, but she represents the believing and obedient remnant. She is clothed with the sun and moon beneath her feet and wears a garland of 12 stars. She also delivers a male child. She is given the wings of a great eagle that she might flee into the wilderness to escape the fiery red dragon with seven heads and ten horns. An eagle while an unclean bird is also the one of the largest and most powerful birds of prey.

These two women have the wings of a stork which is an unclean bird but also one that glides in the air and cannot fly very far, this would suggest no rush in getting it to its destination, but they are heavy birds with huge wing spans so the women with the wings of a stork would be some spectacle in the air and also be able to sustain the weight of the basket. It also represents the uncleanness of the

unrighteous of Israel and Judah for worshipping the Queen of Heaven.

God had judged Israel for its sin of spiritual adultery and the north and south of Israel, which had been judged represented now by the two women with the wings of a stork are departing along with the mother of harlots who's judgement is yet future.

Notice the basket is lifted "between heaven and earth" which is in he air and she is part of the demonic spiritual world which works in the air. Ephesians 2:2 confirms, "in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience."

Zechariah 5:10 tells us where the basket is going it reads:

10 So I said to the angel who talked with me, "Where are they carrying the basket?"11 And he said to me, "To build a house for it in the land of Shinar; [c]when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base."

They were taking the basket to Babylon to build a house, dwelling or a place for it. The word in the Hebrew bayith also means temple, dungeon, prison. They were taking her to a specific temple or house as a place for her. This is where she would reside until we see her in Revelation 17 and 18 emerging with the Beast of Revelation.

From the time of the Kingdom period in Israel, worship of her would spread to all the lands, and literally become a world religion. Depictions of her adapted to the various places, cultures and time periods. She would be worshipped in

Greek and Roman society. When Constantine ended persecution of Christians and adopted Christianity, she would merge with the faith and become part of it.

According to historian Max Dashu, the “greatest competitor to Christianity was the Magna Mater, which was extremely popular and widespread and had roots in all the countries along the empire.” In Christianity she became Mother Mary. Although nowhere in Scripture exonerates Mary to any level of worship, in Catholicism she is raised to the importance of Christ Himself and as intercessor. She would be prayed to as one would pray to God the father. She would retain her Babylonian role as the Queen of Heaven. The house that was built for her would be the Vatican.

Before we look at the Vatican in relation to Revelation 17 and 18, which is in Rome, we will first look at the Scripture and how we know the city referred to is Rome.

Rome, which is symbolized by Babylon and is going to usher in the Tribulation.

6 THE LITTLE HORN -POINTS TO ROMAN EMPIRE

The little horn is a title given to the Antichrist and it is only found in the book of Daniel. I can still recall the horror of a Pastor I knew as he relayed that a Satanist who he was witnessing to identified who he worshipped as the “little horn.”

The little horn is a name of the Antichrist and is synonymous with Satan himself. In the book of Daniel, the little horn provides us details of the Antichrist coming to power, whereas in the Revelation we see the little horn as the fully evolved “Beast.” which is ridden by the Whore of Babylon.

Daniel 7:7-8 states:

7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. 8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

Further down in 7:19 is another mention of the horn and we see from the description it is talking about a man.

19 “Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of

bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; 20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

In verse 21, we see the horn warring with the saints, which is the persecution of the Tribulation church.

21 “I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

In verses 24-25 we are told the little horn is a king who comes after the 10 and in verse 25 we see that he will persecute the church at that time.

23 ‘The fourth beast shall be, A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces.24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings. 25 He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand

For a time and times and half a time.

The Beast has ten horns, and among them comes up a little horn who is the Antichrist (Daniel 7:7-8). Daniel 7:24 states that “the ten horns are ten kings

who shall arise from this kingdom: and another shall rise after them." Revelation 13:1 depicts the horns as wearing crowns.

Both, the book of Daniel and the Revelation identify the horns as kings (Rev. 17:12). The prophets add that these kingdoms do not in exist at the time of the writings. European nations did not come into being until over a millennium later. Only in this last couple of centuries have these nations reigned as separate, sovereign kingdoms. The horns wearing crowns signify established kingdoms or nations. The little horn appears after the kings, and "comes up" among them. The reason the Antichrist is called a little horn is because his small horn represents a relatively new political seat on the world stage when he takes power. His horn appears to be by product of the ten, for it comes up among them, or it is an offshoot of the ten.

Horns grow with age, but this one grows extremely large, quickly. Daniel tells us, "And out of one of them came a little horn, which grew exceedingly great, toward the south, toward the east, and toward the glorious land" (Daniel. 8:9-10).

The Antichrist exists in a symbiotic relationship with the kings. Revelation 17:13 tells us: "These are of one mind and they will give their power and authority to the beast." The Antichrist partners with the Kings. Some label the Union a confederation. The Union considers itself a federation. In a confederation, nations or states share governmental tasks. In a federation, the members relinquish some of their sovereignty to a higher authority, which makes the laws and regulations for the signing states. The Scriptures describe the federation's members as actual nations, not provinces or states. The Bible's federation acts as a dictatorship.

The book of Daniel gives us the location of the little horn that becomes the Antichrist, but not directly. Daniel 8:8-12 reads:

8 Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven. 9 And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious Land. 10

And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and some of the stars to the ground and trampled them. 11 He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down. 12 Because of transgression, an army was given over to the horn to oppose the daily sacrifices; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did all this and prospered.

The Male Goat of Daniel and Baphomet

In Daniel Chapter 8 is the elaboration on the Kings of Medes and Persia represented by a ram, which is a male sheep. A goat with a single horn destroys the ram but is broken. The goat represents Alexander the Great who rose from Macedonia and conquered Greece and Asia as far as India and died suddenly at a young age. When Alexander died his kingdom went to his four generals which the book of Daniel describes as “in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven, and out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great…”

Thus, we have the goat with its horn and it breaks into four and then we are told that out of one of them comes the little horn in the latter days

Alexander’s four generals were Lysimachus, Cassander, Ptolemy and Seleucus.

Lysimachus took Thrace and much of Asia Minor; Cassander took Macedonia and Greece; Ptolemy seized Egypt, Palestine, Cilicia, Petra, and Cyprus (thus beginning the Ptolemaic Dynasty in Egypt which lasted until the death of Cleopatra VII in 31 BCE) while Seleucus took control of the rest of Asia (so founding the Seleucid Empire which was comprised of Syria, Babylon, Persia, and India which included Pergamum).

The Bible does not tell us which one of the four launches the little horn but from knowing history we know that it was from Cassander because he ruled Macedonia and Greece, which became part of the Roman Empire. In 146 BC Macedonia became an official province of Rome. It was at this time also that Pergamum became renown, and Pergamum is noted in Scripture as the throne of Satan.

When Attalus, the king of Pergamum III (138–133 BC) died without an heir in 133 BC he gave Pergamum over to the Romans to prevent a civil war after this death, but immediately after the death of Alexander Pergamum came under one of Alexander's generals. Baphomet is a symbol of Satan from the head of a goat and we see in Scripture the Hellenistic area as the dwelling of Satan and then absorbed by Rome. Even one of the Magna Mater (Queen of Heaven) at Pergamum ended up duplicated on one of the seven hills of Rome. The Greco-Roman gods were practically one in the same and we saw the merging of the two worlds.

Some have thought that the Antichrist would be Greek because of the four notable one's verse, but it refers to the area and direction that the Antichrist will come from which is west to the the Roman Empire, which today would be the area of the European Union in its future state.

The Bible is clear that the Antichrist will have Jewish ancestry because he is the nemesis of Jesus Christ and in other articles I have stated that he will rise from the Tribe of Dan and have pointed out the many contrasts and parallels in

Scripture of Jesus and the Antichrist and the battle of the ages. So the Antichrist will rise from the area of the revived Roman empire but have Jewish descent that might not be obvious.

The Roman Empire in the Book of Daniel

Daniel 9:26 tells us, "…and the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary." Further down in verse 27 it reads, "Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week." This is talking about the Antichrist and we see a view of Rome at the time of Christ under Titus and in its later day form under the Antichrist. Thus, the Whore of Babylon is part of the Roman empire at the time of the destruction of the Second Temple and the coming Third Temple.

7 NAMES OF BLASPHEMY ON THE SEVEN HEADS

The Whore of Babylon rides a scarlet colored beast and sits on seven mountains with seven heads. The seventh head also becomes the eighth head. On the heads are written the names of blasphemy. Revelation 17:3 describes the beast.

3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

In Revelation 17: 9 we are given the additional detail of the seven mountains and more specifics on the seventh and eight heads it reads:

9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. 10 There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time. 11 The beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

We look at the seven hills and along with the seven hills are the seven heads or kings.

In two verses in the book of Revelation we are given a description of the beast of Revelation, which is the final world empire as having on its heads blasphemous names or as the Bible describes the “names of blasphemy.”

You may have never asked what the names of blasphemy are or you may have viewed them as having a broad meaning. On the contrary the names of blasphemy are actual names that lend meaning to the scarlet colored beast ridden by the Whore of Revelation and also to its location. To first understand the names we will look at the verses that tell us of the names of blasphemy.

Revelation 13:1 tells us that the name is on each of the heads:

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

Revelation 17:3 emphasizes by stating that the beast is “full of the names of blasphemy”, this is because the heads take up a good portion of the beat of Revelation and the names are written on each head.

Revelation 17:3 reads:

3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the wilderness. And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast which was full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

In identifying the names of blasphemy, we must first identify the heads. Revelation 17:9 gives us a major clue:

9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. 10 There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.

While not all expositors disagree on the identity of the seven heads, several have agreed that it is those empires that have conquered or taken captive the people of God since the book of Exodus.

These are:

1. Egypt

2. Assyria

3. Babylon

4. Medo -Persia

5. Greece (these are the five that are fallen)

6. Rome (this is the one that is)

7. Yet Future under Antichrist

8. Yet Future under Antichrist

This also lines with the book of Revelation's description at the time that "one is", which was Rome because the Roman Empire ruled during the writing of the book of Revelation. Some expositors have interpreted this passage as only including the kingdoms from Babylon as given in the book of Daniel, but the book of Daniel only takes into account its current place and predictions going forward. The book of Daniel does not look to the past empires of Egypt or Assyria, which kingdoms impacted the children of Israel before Babylon.

When you know the names of blasphemy and why they are there, you understand the significance of the description of the image and it helps to decipher the 7th and 8th head with the 8th head being the Antichrist after his fatal head wound when Satan himself enters his body and rules the world in the second half of the Tribulation known as the Great Tribulation.

Each of the empires have something major in common. They were tied in with false gods and idolatry. Their king or whatever he called himself took on the belief that he was a descendant or a chosen one of the gods. The names they took are names that are reserved for the one true God and His Son Jesus Christ.

1. KINGDOM-Egypt-

NAME OF BLASPHEMY Pharaoh=the good god the good shepherd

god = Ra

Ra was the major god of Egypt, associated with the sun. He merged with the god Horus to rule the world. He is associated with the falcon and hawk. Along with being represented as a man with the head of a hawk and a solar disk on top and a coiled serpent around the disk, he was depicted as a man with the head of a beetle or a man with the head of a ram. Ra was also pictured as a full-bodied ram, beetle, phoenix, heron, serpent, bull, cat, or lion.

The Mnevis bull was worshiped as an embodiment of Ra. In Heliopolis is the formal burial ground for the sacrificed bulls north of the city. The rulers of the fifth dynasty believed they were the sons of Ra, and the deities their father. They equated themselves with gods and referred to themselves as the good god, the good shepherd Thus we have the first name of blasphemy and its kingdom intertwined with false religion.

2. KINGDOM-Assyria

NAME OF BLASPHEMY King = son of god , father of gods

god= Asher

Kings names often included Ashur.

The Assyrian flag contained an image of Ashur

The Kingship was a sacred institution rooted in heaven, the king was the son of

god in human form. His Mother was Mullissu also identified with Ishtar the Queen of heaven of Nineveh. Ashur was represented as a solar disc, a winged disc with horns, with rays shooting from the disc, a circle or wheel suspended from wings with a centered warrior drawing a bow, or the warrior carries the bow in his left hand and uplifts his right hand to heaven. The disc was also mounted on a bulls head with horns among other depictions.

3. KINGDOM Babylonia

NAME OF BLASPHEMY King=god My son of god

god= Marduk originally Bel which means lord

Kings took name of Marduk or Nebo the son of the god Marduk

Marduk was represented as a snake-dragon and also the young bull or calf of Sumas (Utu) the Sun god. Violation of Babylonian laws was also an offense against the gods.

4. KINGDOM -Medo-Persia

NAME OF BLASPHEMY King-king of kings, king of the four corners of the world, king of the world

god= Ahura Mazda-god of good words, good thoughts, good deeds

Zoroastrianism- magus = followers of Zoroastrianism believed in the god Ahura Mazda

In Jeremiah 39:11-14, which relays the account of Nebuchadnezzar looking after Jeremiah in 39:13 is the mention of Rabmag, which means chief of the magus.

11 Now Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon gave charge concerning Jeremiah to Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, saying, 12 “Take him and look after him, and do him no harm; but do to him just as he says to you.” 13 So Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard sent Nebushasban, Rabsaris, Nergal-Sharezer, Rabmag, and all the king of Babylon’s chief officers; 14 then they sent someone to take Jeremiah from the court of the prison, and committed him to Gedaliah the son of Ahikam, the son of Shaphan, that he should take him home. So he dwelt among the people.

Ahura Mazda is depicted as a winged symbol with a male figure. It was customary for every emperor from Cyrus until Darius III to have an empty chariot drawn by white horses as a place for Ahura Mazda to accompany the Persian army on battles.

While Darius was a follower of Ahura Mazda, Cyrus acknowledged all gods and referenced in the Cyrus cylinder his pleasing Marduk. He believed he was chosen by Marduk (Bel) to restore peace and order to the Babylonians.

While Cyrus did not see himself as a son of god, he viewed himself as a king of kings and as ordained by the gods, within the cylinder it states, “ "I am Cyrus, king of the world, great king, powerful king, king of Babylon, king of Sumer and Akkad, king of the four quarters [of the earth], son of Cambyses, great king, king

of Anshan, descendant of Teispes, great king, king of Anshan, the perpetual seed of kingship, whose reign Bel] and Nebo love, and with whose kingship, to their joy, they concern themselves."

Cyrus's Cylinder is considered the first human rights charter, and although Cyrus's deeds were not evil and his subjects revered him to the point of referring to him as "the father." He rulers of the Achaemenid Empire and especially Darius held the belief of having been given power because of the gods.

5. KINGDOM-Greece

NAME OF BLASPHEMY- King-son of god

god= Zeus and other Egyptian, Persian and Greek gods

Alexander the great believed he was the son of Zeus conceived by a virgin birth and that he was a demi-god linked to the blood line of Achilles and Herakles. He honored Egyptian, Persian and Greek gods and used religion to inspire loyalty.

6. KINGDOM-Rome-consolidation of Roman, Greek and absorbed all other pagan gods, also like Babylon steeped in superstition, divination and omens.

NAME OF BLASPHEMY Emperor- deliverer, savior, god on earth

god-Roman gods and Greek gods sometimes overlapped, so they combined

those gods into one. Romans were open to other gods from around the world they did not hear of.

In knowing the names of blasphemy, we in part understand the reason the beast is scarlet colored. The red color is the blood of the saints, martyrs and the bloodshed in war We see red in the second horseman of the Revelation and it is red because it symbolizes blood from violent death. There is more on why she is on a red beast in a later chapter.

Revelation 17 tells us that the Whore is drunk with the blood of the Saints and the martyrs of Jesus. Verse 6 states: 6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

The blood of the saints can possibly refer to the kingdoms before Christ with martyrs of Jesus referring to at the time of Christ or afterwards, considering the time frame each of these kingdoms ruled.

Notice also that each of the heads or governments conquered and absorbed the nation of Israel into its territory. Each differed slightly on their god and what was expected of the subjects. The Medo-Persian empire seemed to fit the least because it was under Cyrus that the Jews were allowed to rebuild the temple and he returned the temple implements, but based on Cyrus's cylinder he served all different gods and sought to get each of their favor. His chief god, Ahura Mazda was a god of goodness and Cyrus was performing the actions he felt would please his god. He took on the blasphemous name "king of kings and king of the world"

In our looking to the future revived Roman Empire or the final world empire, which ever you chose to call it, we have a view to its future based on these past

kingdoms. We also see the place of Rome in the time of the writing of the Revelation and at the time of the end.

It should be noted that the depiction of the Whore of Babylon riding the seven to eight headed beast with names of blasphemy is astounding both in its accuracy of the picture of these empires and her role as well as aiding in identifying her.

8 CITY OF SEVEN HILLS

The Bible is clear that Whore of Babylon dwells on seven hills Revelation 19:9 tells us, “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.”

The passage later refers to Babylon as a city. Babylon-the spiritual and physical city. To identify Babylon, we want to first be sure the Bible is talking about an actual city.

Revelation 17:`8 identifies the woman as a city it states: 18 And the woman whom you saw is that great city which reigns over the kings of the earth.” Some have identified Babylon as the actual place that once existed, but Babylon is the spiritual name. We see God do the same with Jerusalem, which has the spiritual name of Sodom and Egypt.

Consider this verse in Revelation 11:8:

And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Jesus was crucified in Jerusalem. According to a commentary in Bible Study Tools:

When Moses sang a song predicting the apostasy of Israel upon entering the Promised Land after his death, he referred to the Jewish nation as “a nation void of counsel,” whose “vine is of the vine of Sodom and of the fields of Gomorrah” (Deuteronomy. 32:28-32).

Isaiah used a similar analogy when describing God’s rejection of Israel’s insincere sacrifices: “Hear the word of the LORD you rulers of Sodom; give ear to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah: ‘To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?’ ” (Isaiah. 1:10). The sin of Jerusalem is said to be as the sin of Sodom in that it was flaunted openly (Isa. 3:8). Even the apostate prophets are likened to the inhabitants of Sodom and Gomorrah (Jeremiah 23:14).

On Jerusalem being like Egypt Bible Study Tools States:

Elsewhere, Ezekiel describes the Northern Kingdom (Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom (Jerusalem) as idolatrous sisters, both of which committed harlotry in their youth while in Egypt (Ezekiel 23:2-4, 23:19, 23:27). Comparison with Egypt recalls the idolatrous golden calf which Israel made upon departure from Egypt (Exodus 32:4, 32:24).

So we see here in Scripture a very clear picture of a cities and the nation Israel having spiritual names.

This brings up two questions: If Babylon is a spiritual name of a city then what is the city that is spiritually Babylon? Two, how do we know that Babylon is not actual Babylon?

The Bible gives us more details about the city and the details it provides, pinpoint its identity.

According to Revelation 17:9, the Whore of Babylon sits on seven mountains. For those who have theorized that Babylon is referring to the city of Babylon, which today is in Iraq near the town of Hilla. It is not located on seven hills, this is one fact among many that

rules out the original location of Babylon.

Some say it is Mecca because Mecca is built within seven hills. Constantinople (Istanbul) is claimed to be built on seven hills following Rome's example. There are no hills, which match the passages of Revelation 17 and 18 like the seven hills of Rome, which were all centers of idolatry to various gods. These evolved from the Babylonian gods which the Israelites served and took them away from the true God.

In addition, on the seven hills of Rome housed the palaces, and Christian killing fields of the Roman Empire, which lines with further details in Revelation 17 and 18. Finally on one of Rome's hills; Capitoline came the rebirth and recommitment of the revived Roman Empire. The details of the seven mountains of Rome, reveal the astounding accuracy of the prophetic writings.

The seven hills of Rome are: Aventine Hill, Caelian Hill, Capitoline Hill, Esquiline Hill, Palatine Hill. Quirinal Hill, and Viminal Hill

Of the seven hills Palatine was home to several Roman Emperors, .

The City of Rome was founded on Palatine Hill and it was Julius Caesar's last house and his nephew Augustus's palace who began the empire in (27 BC) Augustus built his palace there and it became the place for the palaces of several Roman Emperors at the time of Christ and the Apostles. Palatine Hill means palance. It housed the Flavian Palace to Cicero Augustus, Tiberius and Domitian:

Augustus (27 BC – 14 AD)

Tiberius (14 – 37 AD)

Nero 54 to 68 AD

Domitian (81 – 96 AD)

The ruins of Augustus, Tiberius and Domitian still stand above the park that now covers the area below that was the Circus Maximus. Nero's palace was destroyed in the great fire of 64 AD and he replaced it with the Domus Aurea, which area went beyond Palatine Hill and Domitian's Palace covered the portion on Palatine. His Domus Aurea covered Palatine, Esquiline, Oppian-Southern Spur of Esquiline Hill and Caelian hills, In addition Palatine hill housed the Temple of Apollo Palantinus, Apollo the god of light and the Temple of Cybele.

What is significant of the Temple of Cybele is that she became the Magna Mater in Rome, which means "Great Mother" which was Ishtar in Babylon and ISIS in Egypt, the Queen of Heaven is mentioned in detail in Jeremiah 44:17-25. It was

because of the worship of her that in part Israel's judgement came. With her temple on the hill of the emperors we see one of many depictions of the woman riding the beast. The religion of the gods was tied to the Empires with the leaders of these various empires declaring themselves as the sons of the gods.

Aventine

On the Aventine hill in the 6th century BC was built a Temple to Diana to rival the Temple of Artemis (Diana) build in Ephesus. Diana a huntress and virgin goddess of women and childbirth, was merged with the Greek goddess Artemis, Diana was the daughter of Jupiter, Artemis, the daughter of Zeus, and Diana eventually merged with the Magna Mater whose temple is on Palatine as a form of Ishtar of Babylon, ISIS worship from Egypt, i.e. Queen of Heaven in Jeremiah 44.

Caelian

On Caelian Hill is an ancient basilica church in Rome, the Roman Catholic church merged the beliefs of the Roman and Greek gods and incorporated aspects of them. The Basilica of Saints John and Paul on the Caelia. The church was built in 398, by will of the senator Pammachius, over the home of two Roman soldiers, John and Paul, martyred under the emperor Julian in 362.

Capitoline

Capitoline the hill was earlier known as Mons Saturnius, dedicated to the god Saturn. The word Capitolium first meant the temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus later built here. Afterwards it was used for the whole hill (and even other

temples of Jupiter on other hills).

The Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus, also known as the Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus of the "Temple of Jupiter Best and Greatest on the Capitoline") was the most important temple in Ancient Rome, It had a cathedral-like position in the official religion of Rome, and was surrounded by the Area Capitolina, a precinct where certain assemblies met, and numerous shrines, altars, statues, and victory trophies were displayed. Jupiter, the son of Saturn, was the supreme god to the Romans and his Greek counterpart was Zeus.

Capitoline is also the location of the signing of the Treaty of Rome that established the European Union, (revived Roman Empire-political Babylon) and also the place of the 60th anniversary of the Treaty and the Summit of Rome where EU leaders decided to go forward with an even stronger commitment to EU unity.

Is it any coincidence that on Capitoline took place the rebirth of the Roman Empire with the signing of the Treaty of Rome in 1957 and what would have compelled them at the time to choose Rome? According to David Willey who was a journalist in training who covered the event, he stated in an article that appeared in the BBC.

The symbolism was almost overpowering. They were gathered at the very hub of the ancient world where, 2,500 years ago, six centuries before Christ, the foundations were laid of Rome's first major temple, dedicated to Jupiter, king of the gods.

Willey added, “ The fathers of the new Europe were overlooked by two enormous statues of 16th Century popes raised on plinths at either end, one in bronze, the other in marble. The colorful frescoes depict tales of the legendary

heroes and founders of ancient Rome. And commented that the Vatican newspaper called the signing of the Rome treaties, “"the most illustrious and significant international political event in the modern history of Rome".

EU leaders met at the same place for the Rome Summit at the 60th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome and renewed their commitment for going forward with even greater European Unity and also like the leaders in 1957 who signed the treaties and following in their footsteps; met with the Pope at the Vatican.

According to European Defense Matters and opinion piece by Daniel Fiott he noted of the signing on Capitoline Hill, “As the former location of the temples to the gods Saturn and his son Jupiter, the Capitoline Hill embodied wealth, renewal and liberation. Far from just mythology, however, European leaders back in 1957 laid the foundations for an economic and political union designed to avert war and generate prosperity in Europe. These aims, just like the city of Rome itself, are eternal.”

Esquiline

Esquiline hill home to the erroneously named Temple of Minerva Medica is, in fact, a ruined nymphaeum of Imperial Rome. Once part of the Horti Liciniani on the Esquiline Hill, it now faces the modern Via Giolitti. At one time, it was thought to be the temple to Minerva Medica ("Minerva the Doctor") mentioned by Cicero and other sources. In fact it is a nymphaeum, a building devoted to the nymphs and often connected to the water supply, that dates to the 4th century. In Greek and Roman mythology nymphs are different from goddesses and are generally regarded as divine spirits who animate nature, and are usually depicted as beautiful, young nubile maidens who love to dance and sing Although they would never die of old age nor illness, and could give birth to fully immortal children if mated to a god, they themselves were not necessarily immortal.

Quirinal Hill

According to Roman legend, the Quirinal Hill was the site of a small village of the Sabines, and King Titus Tatius would have lived there after the peace between Romans and Sabines. These Sabines had erected altars in the honor of their god Quirinus which means spear or wielder of the spear and is a god of war.

Tombs from the 8th century BC to the 7th century BC that confirm a likely presence of a Sabine settlement area have been discovered, on the hill. There was the tomb of Quirinus, which Lucius Papirius Cursor transformed into a temple for his triumph after the third Samnite war. Some authors consider it possible that the cult of the Capitoline Triad (Jove, Minerva, Juno) could have been celebrated here well before it became associated with the Capitoline Hill. The sanctuary of Flora, an Osco-Sabine goddess, was here too.

According to Livy, the hill first became part of the city of Rome, along with the Viminal Hill, during the reign of Servius Tullius, Rome' sixth king, in the 6th century BC.

In 446 BC, a temple was dedicated on the Quirinal in honor of Semo Sancus Dius Fidius, and it is possible that this temple was erected over the ruins of another temple. Augustus, too, ordered the building of a temple, dedicated to Mars. On a slope of the Quirinal were the extensive gardens of the historian Sallust, which included a temple to Venus, the love goddess who was the mother of the Roman people through her son Aeneas. Her Greek counterpart was Aphrodite.

On the Quirinal Hill Constantine ordered the erection of his baths, the last thermae complex erected in imperial Rome.

In the Middle Ages, the convent of St. Peter and Domenic were built. There were also the two statues of river gods that Michelangelo moved to the steps of Palazzo Senatorio on the Capitoline Hill.

Viminal Hill

At the top of Viminal Hill there is the palace of Viminale that hosts the headquarters of the Ministry of the Interior; currently the term Il Viminale means the Ministry of the Interior.

According to Livy, the hill first became part of the city of Rome, along with the Quirinal Hill, during the reign of Servius Tullius, Rome' sixth king, in the 6th century BC.

We see on Rome's seven hills temples and alters to the Roman gods and goddesses and of the Babylonian Ishtar, also combined with the homes of the emperors of the Roman empire. Revelation makes clear that on the heads of the beast which are along with the seven mountains are the names of blasphemy because each leader believed they were a god and took the name of a god, which we reviewed in an earlier chapter. Even going further on the hills, themselves are the names of blasphemy. No other seven hills have this history and parallel with the Word of God more precisely than the seven hills of Rome, identifying the city of Revelation 17 as Rome.

9 THE VATICAN-THE WHORE OF BABLON

While we see that Revelation 17 and 18 describes the Whore of Babylon as riding the seven headed beast, which perfectly symbolizes the various empire's history and relation to false gods, with greater focus on the Roman Empire, the remaining verses come to life when examining the Vatican.

Vatican City is its own city and even its own country renown for being the smallest country in the world. It is still located in Rome and part of the fabric of Rome. It stands across from Rome's seven hills and rests on its own hill. Not just any hill, but one with a history that literally lines with the description in Revelation 17 and 18 with precise detail.

This report has established that the Whore of Babylon rests on the mountains which are also kings and on their heads are the names of blasphemy because each king or emperor or Pharaoh took the names of the gods and in some cases believed they were the sons of the gods and were themselves divine.

After Revelation 17 describes the woman as riding the Beast, sitting on top of the it, this woman who represents false religion, Revelation 17:6 tells us:

6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement. And in Revelation 18:24: 24 And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.

While this refers to the Christians killed under Nero and various Roman Emperors, and those murdered during the Holy Roman Empire during the Reformation, and also to the Christians who will be martyred during the Tribulation, the verses come to even greater life when the details of the Vatican are revealed. Before we look at those details let's have a quick overview of Roman History and the Catholic Church:

Quick Roman history and the Church

Jesus was born under the reign of Augustus, 63 BC to 14 AD. Julius Caesar's stepson. With him began the Roman Empire, his government was followed by Tiberius's, 14 AD to 37 AD who under his rule Jesus was crucified. After Tiberius's death, Caligula leads the Empire briefly during the time of Paul and the apostles, 37 AD to 41 AD. There is no mention of Caligula in Scripture. Afterwards Caligula's uncle Claudius reigned for 13 years 41 AD to 54 AD and the church continued to spread. Claudius distinguished himself from other Roman emperors by his conquest of Britain.

Upon Claudius's death Nero took power in AD 54 to AD 68 and was the Caesar referenced to by Paul. According to John W. Quinn in Render Unto Caesar the Expository Files,

Ironically, Nero was the Caesar to whom Paul appealed for justice (Acts 25:11). After Paul was delivered to Rome, Nero placed Paul under house arrest (Acts 28:19). Paul writes of teaching the gospel to the some of the Praetorian Guard and that some members of Nero's own household were Christians during his imprisonments (Philippians 1:13; 4:22). Paul was eventually released, but then later rearrested and executed. He writes of his coming execution in 2 Timothy 4, a chapter showing his great faith and confidence.

From Nero Galba, Otho, and Vitellius (68-69) had brief reigns.

Vespasian ruled in 69-79 A.D. Vespasian and his sons, the emperors Titus and Domitian, are known as the Flavians. Vespian fulfilled Jesus' prophecy concerning the destruction of Jerusalem (with his son, Titus, being the commander in the field) (Matthew 24:1,2).

Titus (79-81 A, D.) The famous eruption of Vesuvius that destroyed the towns of Herculaneum and Pompeii happened during the rule of Titus.

Domitian (81-96 A.D.) Domitian became a cruel tyrant in the later years of his rule, and the period of terror associated with his name ended with his murder.

It is said that under Domitian John was exiled to the island of Patmos and wrote the Book of Revelation. Domitian was responsible for a great persecution against the churches in Asia Minor. Emperor worship was commanded of the people, and Christians would not oblige (Revelation 16:2). But the message from John assures them of complete and final victory if they would be faithful even unto death (Revelation 2:10). The message speaks of the fall and defeat of Rome, the defeat of Satan, and victory of Jesus and His faithful ones.

It is not a definite history that Domitian banished John. It could have been Nero who sent him to Patmos. Under Domitian John would have been in his 90's. On the island of Patmos is a plaque referencing John and it attributes Nero sending him to Patmos. One writer brought up how in the book of Revelation the Temple is referenced in Chapter 11 and John is instructed to go and measure the Temple. The destruction of the Second Temple occurred in AD 70 after the reign of Nero. Peter and Paul were killed under Nero and it makes sense that it would have been Nero who would have sent him to Patmos.

The Vatican is built over the Circus of Nero, Circus of Caligula

It was begun by Caligula on the property of his mother Agrippina and completed by Claudius, Caligula's Uncle who took over as Emperor after Caligula was assassinated- 41-53 AD. Caligula believed he was a god and he dressed as the various gods including Cybele and Magna Mater, the Queen of Heaven. He was so violent and crazed that he was killed by his own guard after only four years in power.

The circus was the place of the first massive Christian martyrdoms in 65 under Nero. Nero set Rome afire and blamed the Christians and went after them and put them through the most brutal and torturous deaths. It is under Nero that Paul was beheaded (as a citizen of Rome he could not be crucified) and Peter was crucified upside down. While Paul was killed just outside of Rome, Peter and others were killed in Nero's circus.

Tacitus a historian who lived at the time recorded the events in the Annals and it is within his writings is the first reference to Jesus Christ. A cemetery was nearby. It is here that the tomb of Peter lay. It was over Peter's tomb and other martyred saints who lay in the cemetery that the Roman emperor Constantine deliberately built a basilica (Old St. Peter's) over the site. He used some of the existing structure of the Circus of Nero. The basilica was centered on Peter's tomb which is located beneath the high alter of the Vatican.

It was as if Satan himself chose the seat of the world's largest cathedral and home of the Harlot to be above the blood and remains of the martyrs she murdered as if they acted as a sacrifice to her demons and principalities. Revelation 17:6 tells us:

6 I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement.

Not only would the blood of the early martyrs be shed in Nero's Circus but the Whore of Babylon's seat would be built right over their graves as if their murders acted as a Satanic sacrifice to the darkest forces on the earth.

In addition, St. Peters lies over the site of several altars and inscriptions commemorative of taurobolia, which was the practice of sacrificing a bull. After the mid-2nd century bull sacrifice became connected with the worship of Magna Mater the Great Mother of Gods. It was the widespread practice of worship of Babylonian's Queen of Heaven, Ishtar, who became ISIS in Egypt and by 159 AD all taurobolia inscriptions mention Magna Mater. A shrine on the right bank of the River Tiber, near the racecourse of Caligula (Gaianum), known from several inscriptions on fragmentary marble altars, dating from 305 to 390 CE, all but one of which were found under the façade of St. Peter's in 1609. It was possibly an important religious center at the time.

What is even more shocking is that the Magna Mater a.k.a Cybele was brought to Rome from Phrygia in about 205 BC. Her symbol was a sacred stone that is said to now be worshipped at Mecca and as a sacred relic at the seat of Islam.

She was Phrygia's only known goddess, its highest deity and might have even been the state deity of Phrygia. Her Phrygian cult was adopted and adapted by Greek colonists of Asia Minor and spread to mainland Greece around the 6th century BC and was then brought to Rome.

What should be noted about the Magna Mater's roots in Phrygia, which later came under the control of Pergamum is that in Revelation 2:13 Jesus makes it clear that this Pergamum is where Satan's throne is and where he dwells. He

states:

13 “I know your works, and where you dwell, where Satan’s throne is. And you hold fast to My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days in which Antipas was My faithful martyr, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

It is no coincidence that the Magna Mater was fetched from Pergamum and its temple ended up on both Paladin Hill and at the site of St. Peter’s Basilica. This is no doubt the woman called “wickedness” who now has a home, which would continue to evolve and cause more bloodshed of the saints.

By the end of the 15th century, having been neglected during the period of the Avignon Papacy, 1309-1377, when Popes resided in France instead of Rome, the basilica had aged and was in need of repair. The first pope to consider rebuilding, was Pope Nicholas V (1447–55). He had plans designed for an entirely new basilica but was never able to achieve them during his reign due to other pressing issues during his reign.

Pope Julius II in hopes of aggrandizing himself after his death with a spectacular tomb within St. Peters, planned far more for St. Peter's than Nicholas V's program. His tomb was to be designed and adorned with sculpture by Michelangelo. In 1505, Julius decided to demolish the ancient basilica and replace it with a monumental structure to house his enormous tomb. Michelangelo improved on Bramante's original design which was based on the Pantheon dome so that it would be able to be performed.

One method employed to finance the building of St. Peter's Basilica was the granting of indulgences in return for contributions. These indulgences would forgive their sins and release them from punishment or penance by god.

Martin Luther, a German priest, wrote to Archbishop Albrecht arguing against this "selling of indulgences". He also included his "Disputation of Martin Luther on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences", which came to be known as The 95 Theses. This became a factor in starting the Reformation, the birth of Protestantism under which many Christians were brutally tortured and murdered and thus keeping with her description in Revelation 17 and 18.

It is no coincidence that the design that was selected was by Donato Bramante of a large Greek cross with a dome modeled on the dome in the Roman temple; the Pantheon, which had been set up by Augustus. It housed all of the Roman and Greek gods. The Vatican would follow continue the practice at the Pantheon and would bring into its museums all of the gods held by the Pantheon. Pope Julius II founded the museums in the early 16th century, which lie next to the Vatican.

In the Vatican museum are about 5000 various statues and many of them of the Roman and Greek gods and all that once stood in the Pantheon. They also house Egyptian and other gods as well.

The Sala Rotonda in the Vatican Museums is modelled after the pantheon right down to the oculus in the ceiling. The Vatican museum also houses the busts of the various Roman emperors and even showcases Nero’s wife’s bathtub.

The Museum’s extensive collections were obtained by the Popes over the centuries and along with the Greek and Roman Gods, The Vatican Museums themselves were originally founded as collections of works of classical archaeology. The Popes viewed themselves as the legitimate heirs of Roman history. In 1506 the original nucleus of the Vatican Museums' classic works was set up in the Cortile delle Statue, today known as the Octagonal Court. Here Pope Julius II (della Rovere) displayed an impressive collection of ancient sculptures, including the Belvedere Apollo and the Laocoön which had just been

rediscovered after centuries buried on Esquiline Hill. Laocoön, in Greek legend, is a seer and a priest of the god Apollo.

The Bronze Pigna at the Vatican once decorated a fountain in ancient Rome next to a vast Temple of Isis. It now adorns the Vatican; its rightful counterpart. Among the many gods at the Vatican is a statue of the Egyptian goddess Sekmet, Hercules, Zues, Diana, Artemis, and the Obelisk in St. Peter's square which was brought from Egypt by Caligula.

Obelisks were prominent in the architecture of the ancient Egyptians, who placed them in pairs at the entrance of temples. The obelisk symbolized the sun god Ra, and during the brief religious reformation of Akhenaten was said to be a petrified ray of the Aten, the sun disk. It was also thought that the god existed within the structure.

Obelisks also act as sun dials and even more shocking it was found on the Ara Pacis or Alter of peace that the sun appears at its tip on October 9 the date of the festival of the Temple of Palatine Apollo. Apollo was the Roman god of the sun. Augustus placed the Temple of Apollo on a spot close to his home before dedicating it on Oct. 9, 28 BC. Apollo, the Roman god of the sun, was Augustus' patron deity.

According to Evan Andrew's article, "Mystery of Ancient Roman Sundial Deciphered Using Digital Modeling," Obelisks were not just native to Egypt but were also discovered in Ancient Assyria, in Nineveh. The Ancient Romans were strongly influenced by the obelisk form, to the extent that there are now more than twice as many obelisks standing in Rome as remain in Egypt.

The most well-known is the 25 meters (82 ft.), 331-metric-ton (365-short-ton) obelisk at Saint Peter's Square. The obelisk had stood since AD 37 on its site on

the wall of the Circus of Nero, flanking St Peter's Basilica: The obelisk was re-erected in Saint Peter's Square in the 16th century by the architect Domenico Fontana. The obelisk was originally brought to Rome by Caligula.

Obelisks were also discovered from Ancient Assyrian civilization, where they were erected as public monuments that commemorated the achievements of the Assyrian king and they were found in Nineveh where they depict military conquests. The Black Obelisk was erected by Shalmaneser III. The reliefs show scenes of tribute bearing as well as the depiction of two subdued rulers, and one of which included Jehu the Israelite and Sua the Gilzanean, giving gestures of submission to the king, which hitorically was a short victory.

The Vatican via its museum's houses many of the gods of the ancient world. Catholicism is the product of the merging of the Roman religion of the Magna Mater and other gods with Christianity. The Popes are named Pontifex Maximus after the high priests in the Roman Empire was the high priest of who presided over the the pagan gods of Rome. The vow of celibacy is an offshoot of the castrated priests who served the Magna Mater. Nuns evolved from the Vestal Virgins who were the priestesses of the Roman goddess of the hearth, Vesta, in the state religion of ancient Rome. With all of these facts, the Vatican is no doubt the identity of the Whore of Babylon of Revelation 17 and 18 and her home. The one that was predicted in Zechariah 5 that would be built and where she would rest on her base or pedestal.

Zechariah's book was written in 520-518 BC after the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians under the reign of Darius and worship of the Queen of Heaven was one of Israel's sins, the Israelites worshipped her in Egypt where ISIS is depicted sitting on a basket, in Zechariah she is thrust down into the basket and removed from Israel and called, Wickedness and she is taken to Babylon to a house to be put on her base. Zechariah reads To build a house for it in the land of Shinar]when it is ready, the basket will be set there on its base.

The Vatican is the identity of the mysterious woman named wickedness in Zechariah 5. Zechariah was written after the Babylonian captivity of Israel and it was this cult that caused Israel to turn from the true God and sin against Him. This is the woman who is carried to Babylon for the building of her temple or house, which is the Vatican.

Revelation 18:2 describes Babylon as a cage for every unclean and hated bird:

2 And he cried mightily[a] with a loud voice, saying, “Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird!

These birds represent demons. 1 Corinthians 10:20 and Deuteronomy 32:16-17 tells us that when one worships an idol they are actually worshipping demons. The unclean birds are represented in Leviticus 11:13-19, which states:

13 ‘And these you shall regard as an abomination among the birds; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, the vulture, the buzzard, 14 the kite, and the falcon after its kind; 15 every raven after its kind, 16 the ostrich, the short-eared owl, the sea gull, and the hawk after its kind; 17 the little owl, the fisher owl, and the screech owl; 18 the white owl, the jackdaw, and the carrion vulture; 19 the stork, the heron after its kind, the hoopoe, and the bat.

Owls and bats have demonic representations. These are flesh eating birds that eat blood. Bats eat mosquitoes that feed on blood, some eat fish and frogs. These birds are associated with death. “every foul spirit” and every unclean bird fits the Whore of Babylon with her numerous gods and vile tortures and murders committed in the name of her gods.

It was Julius II who in 1508 commissioned Michelangelo Buonarroti with updating the decoration of the Sistine Chapel. Julius II inaugurated the Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's new ceiling at a Solemn High Mass on All Saints Day, 1 November 1512.

It should be noted that in the Sistine Chapel, not only does Michelangelo paint Pope Julius II as skinning him alive, but he also painted the Cardinal at the time as a devil. Even more shocking is that within the wall of the Sistine Chapel are 12 goats heads similar to Baphomet's flanked by demons. Baphomet like goat heads; a symbol of Satan are painted in the Sistine Chapel. Someone stated that it was to depict animal sacrifices that were done in the Bible. Others thought the goat represented the hell portion his painting which represents heaven and hell. Whatever the opinion, it is clear that the goat which looks like a Baphomet looks over the Sistine Chapel and this is no coincidence.

Even in the Bible we see the goat indirectly as a symbol of Satan. In the book of Daniel, the goat's head representing Greece produces the little horn, which is the Antichrist. In Matthew 25:31-33 Jesus gives the parable of the sheep and the goats. Jesus the Good Shepherd will separate the sheep from the goats at the Judgement. In Leviticus sins were transferred to the goat who was then sent to the wilderness: the scapegoat. Thus, we see the goat in a negative context representing sin, sinners and in the book of Daniel the son of Satan himself in the little horn of from the Grecian goat.

The Vatican a Place of Money Changers

The Vatican is a place of money changers, which Jesus clearly condemned in the Gospels. Matthew 21:12 describes:

"And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out all them that sold and

bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold doves, And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves."

Jesus made it clear that money changes did not belong in God's Temple and yet money changers are in the Vatican from paying to go into the Vatican to the stories just outside where you can buy all kinds of religious paraphernalia and souvenirs. It is estimated that the Vatican brings in about 80 million euros a year in entrance fees alone. It should be no surprise that the temple of the Whore of Babylon, a house of Satan would have money changers.

The Wealth of the Vatican

The Whore of Babylon wears symbols of great wealth, which also pinpoints the Vatican as the Whore of Babylon.

Revelation 17:4 reads, "The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls."

I just relayed how the Vatican tickets bring in about 80 million euros a year. The Sistine chapel is worth 400 billion US dollars alone. The Vatican museums possess an estimated 11 trillion US dollars in art.

They display works from the immense collection built up by the Popes throughout the centuries includes some of the most renowned classical sculptures and important masterpieces of Renaissance art in the world. The museums contain roughly 70,000 works, of which 20,000 are on display. The museums currently employ 640 people who work in 40 different administrative,

scholarly, and restoration departments.

The Vatican’s great wealth lines perfectly with the description of the Whore of Babylon in the book of Revelation.

10 WHY THE WHORE OF BABYLON WEARS PURPLE AND RED

The Whore of Babylon of Revelation 17 is clothed in scarlet and purple and gold, and many have wondered what these colors represent.

We know that the Whore of Babylon draws men and women away from true salvation and we see this salvation represented in the colors of the fabric in the Jewish temple.

Note the following list:

The colors of the hems of the robes, of the curtains covering the sacred implements we see the color pattern of gold, blue, purple and scarlet.

The Girdles- Exodus 39:24, Exodus 39:29

The Ephod- Exodus 39:5, 8

The Breastplate -Exodus 28:15, 39: 1

The cloths for service, the hanging for the gate of the court of the Temple-

Exodus 38:18, 27:16

Hanging for Tabernacle Door- Exodus 36:37

Curtains of Tabernacle- Exodus 36:8

The Vail of the Temple- Exodus 26:31 Tabernacle with 10 curtains, Exodus 26:1

In the Whore's attire, while it matches up with the colors in the Temple it is missing one significant color and that is blue. Blue represents God's holiness.

In the Old Testament we see the following in blue:

Robes of the priests were blue- Ex.28:31

Table of showbread, dishes, spoons, bowls, and bread shall be spread out on blue cloth-Numbers 4:7

Blue cloth covering the candlesticks, lamps, tongs, snuff dishes and all the oil vessels- Numbers 4:9

Golden alter covered with a cloth of blue and with badgers' skins and put into the staves-Numbers 4:11

All the instruments of ministry in the sanctuary placed in a cloth of blue- Numbers 4:12

Numbers in the NKJ 15:38 states:

Speak unto the children of Israel and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue.

Numbers 15:37-41 in In the NKJV reads:

37 Again the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 38 “Speak to the children of Israel: Tell them to make tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and to put a blue thread in the tassels of the corners. 39 And you shall have the tassel, that you may look upon it and remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them, and that you may not follow the harlotry to which your own heart and your own eyes are inclined, 40 and that you may remember and do all My commandments, and be holy for your God. 41 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I am the LORD your God.”

We also see it very clearly in Ezekiel 38:36-38 on the instructions to Aaron.

36 “You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet:

HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

37 And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban. 38 So it shall be on Aaron’s forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

Holiness to the Lord was embroidered in blue. Blue is the color of God’s holiness. This is why blue is missing on the Harlot because she is unholy and a counterfeit and leads men and women to a false god. It is interesting that she has the same colors representing faith but misses the key color of blue representing the Lord God Himself.

11 WHY THE WHORE OF BABYLON RIDES A RED BEAST

According to Revelation 17:3 the woman rides a scarlet colored beast.

So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

What does this signify? To get our answer we go to Scripture and we see what scarlet means in the Bible and how it is used.

Red (Scarlet) in the Bible

●Sin-Sins as scarlet

-Isaiah 1:18

●Symbol of redemption, cleansing from sin

- Numbers 19:6, Leviticus 14:51

●Costly prized colored material

- 2 Samuel 1:24; Proverbs 31:21

●Wealth

- Lamentations 4:5

●A sign of honor and royalty

-Daniel 5:7

●Lover’s lips compared to a thread of scarlet

- Song of Solomon 4:3

●A symbol of powerful and mighty men-Shield of his mighty men made red, valiant men are in scarlet

Nahum 2:3

●Mockery of royalty- Jesus given scarlet robe

- Matthew 27:28

●War and bloodshed-The red horseman of Revelation

-Revelation 6:4

Does scarlet Beast represent the blood of the martyrs?

The Whore is drunk with the blood of the martyrs, and the scarlet beast would seem to represent the blood of the martyrs in its entirety but it does not, it accounts for the war that is waged on the Saints, but even more so that her sins have reached to heaven and her sins are as scarlet, which includes her deeds against the Saints. Isaiah 1:8

So the Beast and the fiery red dragon of Revelation 12 is red because of its sins but also lines with the other red representations in Scripture: the empire's wealth, kingship, power, and honor in the eyes of the world. It also represents its military valor and is the color of unredeemed sin.

While red symbolizes unredeemed sin, the red thread used in the Temple fabrics represents the blood of Jesus, which has the power to negate unredeemed sin and make it white as snow. Isaiah 1:9 confirms, "Thou yours sins be as scarlet they shall be white as snow".

Thus we have symbolism in the Gospels of when the Roman soldiers mocked Jesus, by placing on him a red robe, it was also symbolic that he was now taking on the sins of the world represented by the red robe.

Matthew 27: 27-31 provides the account of the scarlet robe being put on Jesus to mock him. More than mocking Jesus, the scarlet robe symbolized Jesus taking on Himself the sins of the world. The passage reads:

27 Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. 28 And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. 29 When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” 30 Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. 31 And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified.

Notice that the robe was removed because the 2 Corinthians 5:21:

21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

The scarlet robe symbolizes Jesus being made sin, taking on our sins and the reason that the robe is discarded and Jesus then put on his own clothes is because this place of becoming sin and being numbered with the transgressors was temporary and ended when he shed his blood and resurrected to the right hand of the Father.

In conclusion the Scarlet Beast and the Whore in Scarlet is a picture of her and

her sin which takes her and all who believe her teachings to eternal death.

12 FACTS THAT PROVE THE ROMAN EMPIRE REVIVED

The Bible's accuracy is astounding, both the books of Daniel and the Revelation line up and provide details about the revived Roman Empire that is the 6th, 7th and 8th head on the Whore of Babylon with the 7th and 8th head forecast for during the Tribulation.

In the book of Daniel, we are taken to the Babylonian captivity with Daniel being a prisoner of Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel was one of Israel's best and brightest and for this reason was educated by the Chaldeans and captured to serve in Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom. (Daniel 1:4)

The Babylonian invasion of Israel was a major event to effect Israel and fulfill Prophecy, it ended the Kingdom period in Israel and Solomon's Temple was sacked. Nebuchadnezzar has a dream that disturbed him and Daniel's ability to both tell the King what he dreamed along with provide its interpretation led Daniel to prominence in Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom.

We see in the book of Daniel an overview of world history, from the time of the Babylonian captivity of Israel. Through Nebuchadnezzar's dream God foretells what will happen to the Babylonian empire and lead to the end of the world and the coming of Christ's kingdom.

The conquest of the Babylonian empire by the Medes and Persians and then by the Greeks is foretold. Daniel next provides the details of the final empire in its final form because its strength supersedes the strength at its first arrival and at its second it ushers in the time of the end.

The empires are compared to wild animals. This history also includes a detailed forecast for the future empire that will usher in the end of the age. In the Revelation we see the Beast of Daniel composite, within the Beast of Revelation that the Whore rides, which includes the Beasts described in the book of Daniel. Combined they are the same Beast, but in the Revelation, they are shown with seven to eight heads.

FACT NO. 1 ROME APPEARS IN 3 OF THE 8 HEADS OF REVELATION 18

The first fact is that Rome appears in three of the eight heads being the empire that was referenced to when the Revelation was given to the apostle John and with two heads that are yet future. Scholars have identified the heads as:

1. Egypt

2. Assyria

3. Babylon

4. Medo Persia

5. Greece

6. Rome

Revelation 18:9-10 affirms:

9 “Here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits. 10 There are also seven kings. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come. And when he comes, he must continue a short time.

The “one is” at the time of John’s writing was Rome.

7. Revived Rome -The Bible points to the fact that Revived Rome exists in the future first half of Tribulation-the hint here comes from Revelation 6:6,”A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius. “

The measurement given in the currency of the Roman Empire at the time of John while foretelling a plague during the Tribulation.

8. Revived Rome-The emergence of the eighth head beginning the second the half of tribulation after the Antichrist dies and comes back to life when Satan himself enters into him.

FACT NO. 2 THE BOOK OF DANIEL MAKES 2 REFERENCES TO THE OLD ROMAN EMPIRE AND EACH TIME IS TO POINT TO THE EMPIRE IN ITS LATER STAGE AT THE TIME OF THE END.

In the book of Daniel we see the Roman Empire forecast as “the Prince of the people that shall come who shall destroy the city and the sanctuary,” which we know to be the Romans under Titus.

The second reference in the book of Daniel is the little horn that arises from the four horns or one of the four generals who Alexander’s kingdom was divided between after his death. As stated in an earlier chapter, one of the generals: Cassander took Macedon, which was later taken by the Romans and became a Roman province in 146 BC.

FACT NO. 3 THE DIVISION OF THE FOUR KINGDOMS ALSO DIVIDES EVANGELICALS ON THE IDENTITY OF THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE.

The Roman Empire divided into East and West with the capital moved to Constantinople, which is Istambul in Turkey. One of Alexander’s four generals; Seleucus, took Syria Babylon, Persia and India. For these reasons some say the interpretation of the Whore of Babylon is the literal land of Babylon, and the revived roman empire is going to occur in the Middle East. They state it will be a revival of the Ottoman Empire and we will see a worldwide Caliphate. But none of this fits geopolitically or lines with many of the prophetic Scriptures, which are discussed in this book.

FACT NO. 4 THE ROMAN EMPIRE NEVER REALLY PASSED OUT OF EXISTANCE

One of the Bible commentators stated that in the Bible’s view, the Roman Empire never really passed out of existence and he stated how it existed in varying forms throughout history. This really comes to life when you visit Rome and see that it is an ancient city with the Roman Empire’s buildings and temples

still standing. While visiting Rome I was struck by the accuracy of the Bible's portrayal. So much of the early Roman Empire still stands. The Roman roads are all intact and they still are used as walkways and roadways throughout all of Rome. They even surround the Vatican.

You feel the somberness over the circus fields where Christians were murdered on Paladin and Vatican Hill. Paladin was the home of the emperors at the time of Christ and the apostles. The Circus Maximus was the first and largest stadium in Ancient Rome that could accommodate 150 thousand spectators.

The remnants of the Holy Roman Empire are everywhere in Rome. The prophet Daniel focuses on the revived Roman Empire in its final form, which we are already seeing more than the beginnings of it in unfolding end time Bible Prophecy. While attending the forum Europe fights back and taking part in the heavily guarded March for Europe that ended at the Colosseum and walking the Roman Roads that were laid by the Romans over two centuries earlier, I saw with my own eyes that the Roman Empire physically did not pass out of existence and has been revived through the European Union, which is moving forward and evolving toward the form we see in the book of Daniel and the Revelation. Seeing it all before my eyes I could not help but feel in awe of the precision in the Bible's description.

The Roman Empire had not completely passed out of existence and has always existed in some form until the formation of the EU, which is evolving into its final form that will usher in the second coming of Jesus Christ.

Throughout history various leaders wanted to revive the power and glory of the Old Roman Empire and in the late 80's with the formation of the EU's common market EU politicians spoke the same words that they wanted the EU to become powerful and reclaim the power of the Old Roman Empire.

FACT NO. 5 THE ROMAN EMPIRE LINES PERFECTLY WITH REVELATION 17 AND 18'S DESCRIPTION OF THE WHORE OF BABYLON

In the prophetic writings we see the lack of the time element that man lives by, as if past present and future are viewed as one and the same. We see this in the depiction of the Beast with the seven to eight heads with each of the heads representing a ruler. The final Beast is a composite of all the Beasts. The Whore of Babylon who rides the Beast, is a depiction of the idolatrous and blasphemous dimension of the various empires and especially of the Roman.

The Vatican with its wealth and treasures and home to every imaginable Greek and Roman God, along with Egyptian, Assyrian and even Babylonian religious symbols. As if right out of the Bible, it sits over Nero's circus, which soil was stained by the blood of the Saints. In Rome for the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, EU leaders met with the Pope at the Vatican and signed the Rome agreement in which they agreed to go forward with greater unity. The Whore riding the Beast.

FACT NO. 6 THE EUROPEAN UNION IS THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

The EU is an empire as affirmed by former Commission President Manuel Barroso. It is already a strong and powerful economic power and the political dimension is already there but still evolving. They recently built the command center for their own army.

FACT NO. 7 THE TEN KING INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE DESCRIBED IN THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND IN THE REVELATION IS A CHARACTERISTIC OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

The Bible states, the kings give their nations to the Beast. This non imperial empire, which has never happened in history and it was formed to prevent world war from taking place on its continent. It is a 20th century geopolitical first that was predicted in the books of Daniel and Revelation two thousand plus years ago.

At the EU's 60th anniversary leaders decided to go forward with a multi speed Europe with those nations who wish to go forward ahead of the others having the ability to do so and this possibly giving birth to the final 10 king structure we see in the book of Daniel and the Revelation.

FACT NO. 8 THE TEN KINGS OF THE EU-WHICH WILL BE THE REIGNING POWER WITH THE ANTICHRIST THESE KINGDOMS DID NOT COME INTO EXISTENCE UNTIL THE LAST COUPLE OF HUNDRED YEARS.

Of the 196 Nations that exist, many formed in the 1900's; 168 formed in the 1900's with a couple forming in the 1700's, the US formed in 1776 and a couple originating in the 2000's. The remainder are divided between earlier dates and dates in the 1800's. Israel became a nation in 1948 and is part of nation state trend of modern times.

FACT NO. 9 THE EUROPEAN UNION IS AN ECONOMIC POWERHOUSE

This is a major characteristic of the final world empire detailed in Revelation 17 and 18 and also in the books of Ezekiel in the accounts of Tyre and the king of Babylon. Babylon and Tyre were economic hubs which is what lent to their power.

FACT NO. 10 TWO MAJOR PROPHETIC EVENTS OCCURRED WITHIN 3 YEARS OF EACH OTHER

The forming of the nation state of Israel happened in 1948 and three years later the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community, which was the birth of the EU also formed. This became official at the signing of the Rome Treaty on Capitoline Hill in 195. Amidst the trend of the nation state would begin this non imperial empire whereby the nation states would find strength in unity and prevent war on their continent. In retaining their nationalities and culture, it would also fulfil the prediction of the clay mired in with the steel toes and the clay being identified in Bible Prophecy as the seed of men which is the weakness amidst its strength.

Finally, the Catholic Church played a part in the formation of the European Union and in its evolution which we will look at in the next chapter.

13 THE WHORE'S RELIGION IN THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE

The Bible depicts the Whore sitting on the Beast of Revelation, the Final World Empire or Revived Roman Empire signifying that she plays a principal role in the future empire. In this book the future empire is identified as the European Union and we will be further examine the Whore of Babylon and her relations within the European Union.

Religion does play a part in European politics. Its precepts provided the ideology that prompted the European Union's formation. Religion has a voice in European politics through the Christian Democratic and Socialist political parties, which elect statesmen who share their beliefs. The leaders of these parties become the political representatives of their churches. During the French Revolution, as Democracy spread through Europe, so did Christian political parties. Most of these parties were Catholic. The Christian Democratic political movement would defend the Church's ultimate interests. This political party assumed responsibility for the social services that the Church was no longer in a position to provide. The Whore in part sits on the Beast through the Christian political parties that are responsible for the European Union's formation and evolution. While Christian doctrine founded America, the Whore's precepts provide the ideological basis for the formation of the final world power's government.

Catholic ideals influenced the European Union's founders. During World War II, French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman, German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, and Alcide de Gasperi, each man exemplary Catholics, had been hunted by Nazis and Fascists. De Gasperi—the founder of the Christian Democratic Party in Italy, and a militant Catholic activist and anti-fascist—became premier of Italy in 1945. He believed that the party man remained linked with his spiritual mother, the Church. His theological convictions

influenced his public and private actions.

German Chancellor Konrad Adenaeur helped found the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in Germany in 1945. He “typified a Catholic Germany in contrast to a pagan Germany.” In 1949, the Frenchman Robert Schuman became France’s foreign minister. He had wanted to become a priest but gave the idea up to serve his faith in other ways. For him, politics was a priestly duty. All three men were politicians with high ideals.

Pope Pius XII, who held strong political beliefs, sought to aid the cause of peace with the help of fellow Catholics. He and the leaders of the Christian Democratic parties formulated a plan. For the first time, leaders of the Catholic Church headed the French, Italian, and German governments. The Christian Democratic political parties aroused hopes of a new Christianity. The movement arranged religious gatherings where they planned political action. Vatican Europe became part of the political scene.

Europe, devastated by two world wars, directly felt the threat of two atheistic ideologies—communism and fascism. The European political leaders believed that the only way to have peace among nations would be if the nations aligned themselves in economic and political pursuits. Schuman proposed that France and Germany create a Coal and Steel Community, encompassing the two nation’s production. Konrad Adenauer welcomed the idea as a way to prevent war among these two nations. They invited other nations to join as well.

• On May 9, 1950, the Schuman Declaration led to the first European Union.

• On April 18, 1951, European leaders signed the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) Treaty in Paris.

The entire Franco-German production of coal and steel resided under a higher authority. Its decisions bound France, Germany, and other member countries. A Council represented the interests of the Member States. The common assembly later became the Court of Justice. In their view, this foundation of a European federation was vital to the preservation of peace.

The union would prevent war. The French and German heavy industries urgently needed rebuilding. The ECSC would spur growth. This agreement marked the birth of the European Union. Ratified by the governments of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg, the ECSC began functioning in 1952. It represented a revolutionary approach to international relations, as the first international organization with a federal governing body. This led to the drafting of the EURATOM (European Atomic Energy Community) and Common Market Treaties.

• On March 25, 1957, European founders signed the EURATOM (European Atomic Energy Community) and the Common Market Treaties in Rome on one of its seven hills—Capitoline Hill. Religion influenced the European Union's formation through political leaders who embraced its precepts. These men acted as key players in the Union's formation. They held the highest positions in its newly established organizations.

Robert Schuman became the first president of the European Commission in 1958. Alcide de Gasperi held the presidential post of the ECSC Common Assembly in 1954. Monsignor Pierre Raffin, the Bishop of Metz, in Schuman's native Lorraine, launched a campaign for his beatification; the first step on the way to sainthood. Some Christian Democratic members of the European Parliament backed the initiative. Of Jacques Delors, the former EU Commission president, Stanley Hoffman, who writes on European Union affairs, wrote: "A former official of the French labor union inspired by progressive Catholic thought, he exemplifies the synthesis of Christian democracy and socialism on

which the Community was built." One's religious convictions greatly affect one's political beliefs.

In the summer of 1998, the United Methodist News Service issued a press release stating that European churches were preparing to play a major role in the continued development of the European Union. The European Ecumenical Commission for Church and Society merged with the Conference of European Churches into the Commission on Church and Society. Members of this new commission included Methodists, Lutherans, Baptists, Anglicans, and the Orthodox. The Conference of European Churches comprised 123 different church bodies, and also cooperated with the Roman Catholic Church. Keith Clements, the conference's general secretary, commented: "For the first time in centuries, there's the possibility of creating a Europe without barriers, the challenge to the churches is whether they themselves can contribute to the unity."

The Role of the Catholic Church and the European Union

Catholic thought provides the ideological basis for a united Europe and presents itself as a political point of reference. The Church along with the unification of Europe, is simultaneously attempting to unify and strengthen itself. It aims to become the spiritual backbone of the evolving European Union. According to See Change, a publication for Catholic organizations, which reports on how the hierarchy of the Catholic Church involves itself in public policy debates:

It seems that the bishops want the European Union to become an extension of the church, by confirming that European civilization, in the words of the pope, "emerged because the seed of Christianity was planted deep in Europe's soil." (Zenit, "Popes, proposals for European Charter of human rights, "September 24, 2000.) Few democracies in Europe mention God in their constitutions but this did not deter the bishops from demanding that the European Union should do so.

On January 13, 2003, Pope John Paul II gave his State of the World address to representatives of 177 countries in Vatican City. Concerning the European Union, he stated: “The Holy See and all the Christian Churches have urged those drawing up the future Constitutional Treaty of the European Union to include a reference to Churches and religious institutions.” He added: “ A Europe which disavowed its past, which denied the fact of religion, and which had no spiritual dimension would be extremely impoverished in the face of the ambitious project which calls upon all its energies: constructing a Europe for all.”

Within two weeks of the Pope’s address, United Press International reported that the Pope was “lobbying European governments to officially recognize the European Union’s Christian roots,” and they reported on the Catholic Church’s efforts to work a strong Christian reference into the preamble of the EU Constitution. The Vatican argues that “Christianity’s fundamental role in shaping European culture should be acknowledged in what is destined to become the European Union’s key document.” Convention delegates are reluctant to involve religion in the new constitution, for fear that it might create additional problems for the Union.

Dr. Ian Paisley of the Institute of Protestant Studies, whose web site (http://www.ianpaisley.org/about.asp) promotes, defends, and maintains Bible Protestantism in Europe, exposes the papacy as the Beast of Revelation and offers some enlightening facts. His article “The Vacant Seat Number 666 in the European Union Parliament,” records:

The prophetic significance of the European Union has been revealed as the saga unfolds. First, the sign which it chose as its symbol was the woman riding the Beast. This comes from a prophecy in Revelation 17. The depiction of the harlot woman was reproduced on the centenary stamp of the European Union, in a huge painting in the Parliament’s new building in Brussels, and by a huge sculpture outside the new EU Council of Ministers Office in Brussels. The new European coinage, the euro, bears the same insignia. The Tower of Babel has

been used on the posters emanating from Europe – a truly suggestive prophetic sign.

Now, a massive Crystal Palace tower (officially called the Tower Building) houses the Fifth Parliament of Europe.

The web site also exposes the Catholic Church's immorality and its political role within the European Union and alerts its readers to EU legislation that infringes on the freedoms of European citizens. In November of 2008, the Catholic Church demanded that the EU enshrine Sunday observance into law. In October of 2009, the Catholic News Service reported Pope Benedict XVI asserting:

If European unity is based only on geography and economics, it cannot succeed in promoting the common good of all Europe's citizens and in helping the rest of the world. The recognition of the dignity of the human person and the obligation to work for the common good -- values Christianity fostered on the continent -- are what inspired the movement toward European unity and are the only guarantee of its success.

The European Union did not bring those values to the 27 member countries, but rather it is these shared values that have given birth to and were like a gravitational force that drew the countries together and inspired them to form a union.

When the church recalls the Christian roots of Europe, it is not seeking a special status for itself, instead, it is calling Europeans to remember that the values that brought peace to the continent and freedom and dignity to its people must be allowed to continue nourishing it…Europe will not truly be herself if she cannot keep the originality that made her great.

In the Pope's own words, we see the image of the woman sitting on the Beast and her influence is clearly evident. So much so that contributors have devoted a page to Wikipedia, the online encyclopedia entitled "European Union- Holy See Relations," and another entry titled, "The European Union and the Catholic Church."

A few years back there was a web site dedicated to exposing the meaning of the EU flag. The site called itself "The EU Flag's True Symbolism Revealed." The writer presented the idea that the symbol derived from the Virgin Mary and is a tribute to her. The EU's flag, a circle of twelve stars on a blue background, depicts Judeo-Christian symbolism. The twelve stars symbolize the twelve tribes of Israel, the twelve apostles, along with the twelve months in a year, and the Greek myth that speaks of the twelve labors Hercules performed to gain immortality.

The European Union bases many of its symbols on pagan myths; the very name Europe is from the Greek mythological Europa, a Phoenician noble woman kidnapped by Zeus who came to her as a bull and took her to the island of Crete where she became queen. Ian Paisley pointed out the similarity of Revelation Chapter 17 depiction of the harlot riding the beast and the EU's woman seated on the bull which are outside several of the European Union's institutions, as well as on the Greek euro coin.

Europa's name appeared on postage stamps commemorating the Council of Europe, issued in 1956. Furthermore, the dome of the European Parliament's Paul-Henri Spaak building contains a large mosaic by Aligi Sassu portraying the abduction of Europa with other elements of Greek mythology. Europa also serves as the national personification for Europe. The building, which hosts the European Council and the Council of the European Union which are the Prime Ministers and President of the Member Nations along with the President of the Commission, the leading presidency of the EU is named "the Europa Building."

This provides another example of the depiction of the Whore riding the Beast showing elements of actual worship and its true spiritual depiction. The theme of the woman with a beast of some sort is a common one in the worship of Ishtar: the Queen of Heaven.

14 THE TEN KINGS - MODERN POLITICS PREDICTED

In the book of Daniel and the Revelation it is predicted that the final world empire will have a government of ten kings along with the Antichrist. Revelation 17 tells us that the ten kings willingly give their power and authority to the Beast and they have one mind. In relation to the Whore of Babylon, these kings aid the Antichrist in her destruction.

The ten-king alliance the Bible describes in governmental terms is called a federation and is not a confederation.

In a confederation, nations or states share governmental tasks. In a federation, the members relinquish some of their sovereignty to a higher authority, which makes the laws and regulations for the signing states. The Scriptures describe the federation's members as actual nations, not provinces or states. The Bible's federation acts as a dictatorship.

Federations did not exist at the time the prophecy was given in the book of Daniel or the Revelation.

Note what the Scripture tells us:

Revelation 17:12-13:

12 “The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

Revelation 17:16-17 adds:

16 And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire. 17 For God has put it into their hearts to fulfill His purpose, to be of one mind, and to give their kingdom to the beast, until the words of God are fulfilled.

Nations joining empires is a modern phenomenon and is exhibited in the European Union. Ancient empires came about by military conquests. The Roman Empire had some neighboring tribes who opted for Roman protection such as the Goths and the Vandals, but no king went to another and willingly joined his kingdom.

The United States is the first real federation to arise on the geological scene. The European Union models itself on the US only it comprises of member nations vs. states, just like we see depicted in the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Some historians will site distant types of federations that existed in history with the earliest being the League of Corinth. This was an alliance of Greek states created by Philip II of Macedon during the winter of 338 BC/337 BC after the Battle of Chaeronea, to facilitate his use of military forces. The next would be the Kingdom of the Franks; a confederation comprised of West Germanic Tribes in 481 to 843.

Nations giving their countries over to another power is a byproduct of modern society resulting from globalization, the increase of technology, threats of magnitude destruction of modern weaponry and global problems.

In the book of Daniel, we see that the Antichrist rise after the ten kings, meaning that their kingdoms are already established when he comes on the scene. Notice the ten kings are joining a separate kingdom (empire) that is not theirs.

Daniel 7:24 states:

“And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.”

Again, we see this fulfilled today in modern 20th and 21st century politics in the European Union.

Former Commission president Manuel Barroso called the EU ‘the first non-imperial empire,” because the kingdoms willingly hand over their kingdoms. Revelation 17:12-13 tells us:

“And the ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet; but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast, these are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.”

This verse describes the relationship of the ten kings to the Antichrist. They

both strive for the same goals. One entity does not exist without the other. The Council of The European (formerly Council of Ministers) give their strength and power to the Commission. Without the member nations that hand over their authority to the Commission, there would be no European Union.

Several articles in the EU Treaty reflect their having one mind. Article 162 states: “The Council and the Commission shall consult each other and settle by common accord their methods of cooperation.”

The Scriptures are unprecedented in their accuracy and detail. Although written over 2000 years ago, one Bible verse epitomizes the contents of two treaties in just 14 words. “These shall have one mind and shall give their power and strength unto the Beast.” Over and over, one reads of the Commission’s and Council Ministers’ simultaneous role. Peter Ludlow, the founding director of the Centre For European Policy Studies think-tank in Brussels, referred to the Commission-Council relationship as a “partnership.” Of the EU’s institutions, the Commission, and the Council (of Ministers) represent the leading authorities.

Based on the description of “reining as Kings” elevates the current Council as a true power center for the entire Union. In their final form they exist united with equal authority but only for a time because at the height of the EU’s power we see the Antichrist’s horn growing above the other horns and the Scripture tells us it is for a time they are co joined.

Currently the EU has 27 members with more wanting to join. In my book the Seat of the Antichrist: Bible Prophecy and the European Union I wrote about the EU’s current proposals for an inner core of members, a political core that would reduce the current members in the council and stated:

Guy Verhofstadt, former Belgian Prime Minister and EU Parliamentarian

authored a manifesto for Europe titled, The United States of Europe: Manifesto for a New Europe, in it he discusses the inner core and added his own proposals and summarized them in his article, “Only a New ‘political core’ can drive Europe forward again.” He stated:

Only through adopting a unified approach in all these areas will Europe really count as a world player. …In such a scenario, Europe would comprise two concentric circles: a political core that is a “United States of Europe” based on the Eurozone, and surrounding it a confederation of countries, or a “Organization of European States”.

Naturally, this political core must never prevent or oppose any form of broader cooperation. All EU Member States wishing to join it, old or new, should be able to do so; the sole precondition should be their willingness to work unconditionally on pushing ahead with the overall political project. The notion of a “United States of Europe” is the only option for the old continent.

There already exists the “enhance cooperation” clause in the Lisbon Treaty that allows member nations to go forward in areas of cooperation and advanced integration ahead of others if they so wish and they must have a minimum number of nations in agreement and the number is nine nations. This is no coincidence; this is unfolding Bible Prophecy.

Guy Verhofstadt this year helped draft a report for the European Parliament that calls for a special law council within the Council. This is another approach at reducing the number of members to an inner core. This will happen because right now the government of the EU was not meant to function with 27 member, it was never intended to have more than a dozen at the most. EU leaders decided at the 60th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome in Rome to go forward with a core group of members.

These are exciting times in which we live to be able to see Bible Prophecy unfold before our eyes right down to these finer details.

It is amazing that the book of Daniel predicted a geopolitical structure that would not emerge on the scene until about twenty-five hundred years later. Nation states themselves became a phenomenon of the last couple of hundred years.

The ten kings take part in the judgment of the Whore of Babylon, which is discussed in detail in the next chapter.

15

THE WHORE'S JUDGMENT

In the end times, the Great Whore sits upon the Beast-joined to his

Kingdom—and later the Antichrist and his federation of kings destroy her. They carry her off, leaving her naked and burned. Her presence indicates political influence. Her destruction by the Beast reveals that she exercises limited power over the Antichrist and his federation of kings. Though present in the kingdom's early stages, she does not remain long after the entity becomes powerful. Her destruction occurs when the Antichrist claims to be god and demands worship of him alone. His ideology diametrically opposes her precepts. All religions threaten his imposed laws.

Revelation 17 and Isaiah 47 describe the Great Whore's judgment by God. In verse 6, the Scriptures describe her as "drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs." Verse 7 describes the Beast "carrying her." Initially the Bible pictures the woman sitting on the Beast—joined to his kingdom—which reveals that she has influence over the Beast. Later they carry her, indicating that she grows into a burden, and in verses 16 and 17 the Bible tells us: "And the ten horns which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire."

The Whore's judgment comes from God. Making her desolate and naked, eating her flesh, and burning her with fire indicate that violence will be committed against her—such as spoiling the treasures of her churches, taking possession of her land, burning her Bibles, religious literature, statues, religious paraphernalia,

and buildings, and persecuting her followers so that the Antichrist alone can be the sole object of worship.

While many churches, mosques, synagogues and all other religious buildings will be destroyed, the land will be taken over by the State and some of the buildings repurposed. The valuables will be taken as booty. This includes the riches that lie within the Vatican. It is possible the Antichrist will take the 11 Trillion that rests in the museums valuables and sell them to collectors and museums around the world along with the Four-billion-dollar Sistine chapel. The Vatican Museum can also possibly get taken over by the Antichrist's police state and not sold off but rather the 80 million euros per year that the museum brings from visitors will go the Antichrist's government and his social welfare state.

Daniel 11:24 states:

He shall enter peaceably, even into the richest places of the province; and he shall do what his fathers have not done, nor his forefathers: he shall disperse among them the plunder, spoil, and riches; and he shall devise his plans against the strongholds, but only for a time.

While the Whore of Babylon initially has influence over the Beast's kingdom, she does not remain long after his government becomes powerful.

The Whore's destruction occurs when the Antichrist claims to be a god and demands worship of him alone. All religions then become a threat to him, and he sets out to remove them from the face of the earth.

In the past century, many dictatorships arose and each of them eliminated

freedom of religion and speech as the state and the dictator act as the objects of one's sole dedication. The Antichrist will limit these freedoms on a worldwide scale and the nations which do not willingly go along he will conquer.

Several Bible scholars teach that "the Whore" represents a one-world religion, which operates along with a one-world government. These writers cite the ecumenical movement that embraced many religions and supported left wing revolutionary groups as the forecasted one world religion. The movement endorsed liberation theology, which taught that Jesus was the first Marxist. Liberation theology used the Scripture to prove that the Bible provided the basis for Communism. The Catholic Church, one of the largest churches in the world, refused to join the Ecumenical Church.

Some expositors teach that the Antichrist heads the one world religion, which launches the False Prophet. This author holds the view that the Whore of Babylon and the Beast operate separately and the Whore's location, religious teachings and influence over the area of the Beast intertwines them.

Revelation 17:7 states that the Beast "carries" the woman. The verse uses bastazo, the Greek word for carries, which according to Strong's Lexicon means: 1) to take up with the hands, 2) to take up in order to carry or bear, to put upon one's self (something) to be carried, a) to bear what is burdensome, 3) to bear, to carry, a) to carry on one's person, b) to sustain, i.e. uphold, support, 4) to bear away, carry off.

This woman clearly becomes a burden to these kings and the Scripture tells us "these shall hate the Whore." Verse 17 explains that they give their allegiance to the Beast who deifies himself and establishes his own religion (Dan. 11:39).

The Revelation specifies that the woman sits on the Beast because she shares the

same location. Her teachings influence the leaders and people of the land.

Political Babylon's Foretold Destruction

The book of Revelation foretells the destruction of Babylon. The Scriptures refer to Babylon as a "she." International trade characterizes her. God cites her as a deceiver of nations, and the means by which the merchants and great men of the earth trade (Revelation 18:7,23). The European Union's political ideology derives from the Whore's teachings. The act of uniting Europe to prevent war among its nations finds its roots in religious conviction. Nations will not wage war against one another while united in economic alliance. If nations align with one another they will eliminate war and achieve peace. The deception exists in the premise that worldwide democracy will ensure peace, justice, and human rights. Revelation 18:11-15 lists twenty-seven exported goods combined with categories of products. The 28th phrase lists "souls of men." Verse 23 concludes with: "For by thy sorceries were all the nations deceived." The Scriptures teach that man is sinful, and because of his nature there will be no peace on earth until the second coming of Jesus Christ.

During Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Jeremiah foretold Babylon's judgment in the latter days. Just as Nebuchadnezzar laid siege to Jerusalem and oppressed the Jews (Jeremiah 50:30), the Antichrist will do the same. When the Antichrist treads down the nations, the nations become angry. Jeremiah 51:7 states: "Babylon was a golden cup in the Lord's hand that made all the earth drunk: The nations drank her wine; therefore, the nations are deranged." Revelation 17:4 tells us that abominations and filthiness of fornication fill the gold cup in her hand. The kings of the earth commit fornication with her and become drunk with the wine of her fornication.

Revelation 18:3 adds that "the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." The rest of the chapter predicts her destruction. The remaining passages refer to her as the hub for trade for the earth's

merchants. Upon her destruction, these merchants mourn, for they can no longer trade with her.

After the Antichrist wreaks his havoc upon the earth, armies will go to fight against the European Union. Jeremiah 50:41 states: “Behold, a people shall come from the North, and a great nation and many kings shall be raised up from the ends of the earth.” In the Bible, North always refers to the area of Russia. “A great nation” may be the US. “At the noise of the taking of Babylon the earth trembles, and the cry is heard among the nations” (Jeremiah 50:46).

God destroys political Babylon i.e. the final world empire. As Hitler was the spark for World War II, when he invaded and conquered nations in Europe; the Antichrist’s swift and fast conquest will prompt powerful nations to wage war against him. Daniel 11:40 states that “at the time of the end, the King of the South shall attack him: and the King of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, horsemen, and with many ships.”

When armies invade his land, the Antichrist enters into the attacking countries and defeats them. He conquers Egypt and North Africa. Hearing reports from the North and East, he goes forth with great fury to destroy. He ends up at a place prepared for him in Jerusalem (Daniel 11:42-45). Israel and the Middle East become part of Antichrist’s conquered territory, according him the exact borders of the Roman Empire at the time of Christ. Jeremiah 4:6-7 tells us:

“Set up the standard toward Zion: take refuge! Do not delay!: For I will bring disaster from the North, and great destruction. The lion has come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the nations is on his way; he has gone forth from his place to make your land desolate; your cities will be laid waste without inhabitant.”

The Antichrist's armies, Russia, the Eastern nations, and the US surround Jerusalem. The river Euphrates dries up and prepares the way for the kings of the East. God draws the world's armies to the place called, in the Hebrew tongue: Armageddon (Rev. 16:12-16).

16 WHORE OF BABYLON VS. BRIDE OF CHRIST

In the book of Revelation, we see both the Whore of Babylon in Revelation 17 and the Bride of Christ in Revelation 21. This lines with the Bible's theme of contrasts of Satan with God, and the Antichrist versus Jesus. In line with this subject is the Whore of Babylon who is opposite the Bride of Christ.

Christ loves His Bride who is made righteous by His blood and He gives Himself for her, while Satan has his whore who is evil and who he destroys because she gets in the way of his being the sole object of worship.

Christ loves His bride and gives Himself to her while Satan uses the whore to accomplish evil and lead men and women astray from the true God.

One woman teaches truth, the other lies. One woman lives for eternity, the other is destroyed. The Bride is seen by John in a great and high Mountain. (Revelation 21:10). The Whore of Babylon is viewed in the wilderness (Revelation 17:1). The mountain is always a place of blessing, while the wilderness is a location of hardship. Revelation does not just describe any mountain but a great and high mountain.

Holy Jerusalem descends out of heaven (Revelation 21:10). The Harlot sits on many waters in the earth (Revelation 17:1). One is spiritual, eternal and heavenly, while the other is of this earth and is carnal and temporal.

Both are referred to as city's. Revelation 17:18 states of Babylon:

‘The woman you saw is that great city that reigns over the kings of the earth.”

Rev. 21:2 describes New Jerusalem as a city,

“Then I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.”

Revelation 21:10 confirms:

And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

While Babylon is referred to as a great city the heavenly is named

‘the Great City The Holy City.” Babylon as “that great city” is not the “The Great City” because does not possess the grandeur and splendor of the Holy Jerusalem.

We see that both cities’ are represented by women and have names written on them.

On Babylon we see a name on her forehead: Mystery Babylon the Great, The mother of harlots and of the abominations of the earth (Rev. 17: 5). Along with

her name are the names of blasphemy on the heads of the Beast indicating these all belong to her and are her offspring.

On the heavenly city there are names written on the 12 Gates of the 12 tribes of the children of Israel and Revelation 21:12 records that on the twelve foundations are the names of the 12 apostles of the Lamb (Revelation 21:14). Whereas the whore is branded on her forehead and is also the same place we see the names of blasphemy on the seven to eight heads of the east. It is also one of the places on the body to accept the mark of the Beast or the number of his name.

The 144 thousand witnesses bear God's name on their forehead. Like the 144 thousand witnesses the priests of the Old Testament wore a turban on their forehead that said, "Holiness to the Lord." Ezekiel 38:36-37 reads:

36 "You shall also make a plate of pure gold and engrave on it, like the engraving of a signet:

HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

37 And you shall put it on a blue cord, that it may be on the turban; it shall be on the front of the turban. 38 So it shall be on Aaron's forehead, that Aaron may bear the iniquity of the holy things which the children of Israel hallow in all their holy gifts; and it shall always be on his forehead, that they may be accepted before the LORD.

The name on the forehead is a strong identity statement of acceptance or rejection before God. Note that those accepted have the name of Christ or

Holiness to the Lord as a sign of acceptance, while the Harlot, the Beast's heads and the foreheads of those who take the mark of the Beast bear names of idolatry.

There is also another element here with the Harlot's name on her forehead and it is in line with actual worship of the Queen of Heaven. In some civilizations she is portrayed with writing on her forehead, identifying her honor in those societies, but God writes on her forehead her true identity.

Religion in the Greco-Roman World

What should also be noted is the use of the word "mystery," in ancient societies the Greco-Roman mysteries were part of their faith. The mystery religion was any of the secret sects that offered those in the Greco-Roman world religious experiences not provided by the official public religions. Mystery religions reached their peak of popularity in the first three centuries AD. They origin goes back to earlier periods of Greek history. In 391-399 AD, the Roman Emperor Theodosius through a series of decrees forbade pagan worship and ordered the demolition of temples and alters, which led to the extinction of the mysteries by the fifth century.

Mystery religion is known to have flourished from the sixth century B.C.E. onward. Although often focused on "oriental" gods and goddesses such as the Egyptian Isis and Persian Mithras, the cults themselves seem to have been of Mediterranean origin.

According Walter Burkert, who wrote Ancient Mystery Cults, published by Harvard University Press:

"Mysteries are initiation ceremonies, cults in which admission and participation depend upon some personal ritual to be performed by the initiated. Initiations . . . are found in a wide range of settings, from the most primitive Australian tribes to American universities. Mystery initiations were an optional activity within polytheistic religion, comparable to, say, a pilgrimage to Santiago di Compostela within the Christian system. . . . Mysteries were initiation rituals of a voluntary, personal, and secret character that aimed at a change of mind through experience of the sacred"

The initiation rituals of the mystery traditions often sought an existential transformation through a highly dramatic and emotional ritual such as the taurobolium, which is the sacrifice of a bull.

Alexander the Great inherited a unified Greece from his father, Philip of Macedonia. Between 336 and 323 B.C.E. (the year of his death) Alexander united the entire oikumene (the known world) under the dominantly Greek culture. According to Luther H. Martin in his book Hellenistic Religions: An Introduction: "With the advent of Hellenistic Internationalism, Eastern deities such as the Egyptian Isis and Syrian Atargatis, found themselves welcomed as cultural citizens of Hellenistic society and worshipped alongside traditional Greek

deities by a newly constituted cosmopolitan following. . . . As these deities gradually became participants in the Hellenistic world, they were simultaneously severed from their original roles and meanings"

… More is known of the mystery religion of the Roman period associated with such deities as Dionysius, Isis (originating in Egypt), Mithra (originating in Persia and related to Mitra/Varuna of the early Vedic texts), Zeus, Helios, Sol Invictus, and Jupiter. These cults were at their peak in about the fourth century of the Christian era.

According to the website, “Timeless Myths:”

“There are many different religious groups in Greece and Rome, that doesn’t correspond to the usual religions of the various gods and goddesses. Their rites and sometimes their teachings are kept secret, and that are only understood by the cult initiated. For these reasons these groups are known as the “mystery religions.”

On the Whore of Babylon’s forehead we see the word mystery having a double meaning as both referring to the ancient religious mysteries as they were called that she was a part and also the answer to a mystery in God’s word, that “Mystery Babylon” is false religion.

In line with the Harlot having her name written on her forehead, in which the Queen of Heaven was actually depicted and by the name Mystery Babylon, which derives from how she was regarded we see the names of the twelve tribes of Israel and the 12 apostles on her Gates and very foundation. In contrast to the mystery name: actual names of men who lived.

Revelation 21: 12-16 depicts the Heavenly City laid out as a square with walls and gates: a Heavenly foundation. While Revelation 17:3 records Babylon as a woman riding a Beast with seven to eight heads and ten horns; a fleeting Earthly empire. The ten horns of the earthly city pale in comparison to the 12 foundations of the Heavenly city. In the contrast here we see the woman and eventually the Beast she rides destroyed, while the Heavenly City with its gates and foundations is eternal.

The Heavenly city is made of jewels, pearls and gold. The walls are jasper, pure

gold, precious stones on the foundations, jasper, sapphire, chalcedony, emerald, sardonyx, sardius, chrysolite, beryl, topaz, chrysoprase, jacinth, amethyst, The 12 gates were 12 pearls, each individual gate was of one pearl, street of the city was pure gold like glass.

The Whore wears her jewels and is adorned with them to lure men and women from the true God (Revelation 17:4.) The Heavenly City is made of jewels because it is the True God and is given to the saved to walk in its light (Revelation 21:24). The whore is beastly and of the earth, while the bride is heavenly with God and Jesus providing the light and there is no darkness.

The Whore has in her hand a cup and in it is the filthiness of her fornication meaning her false teachings. (Revelation 17:4). Whereas we see Jesus with a cup Luke 22:20 Jesus tells us ‘the cup is the new testament in My blood.’ Meaning it represents the Gospel, which are teachings of truth.

The Beast carries the Harlot (Revelation 17:7) while the Heavenly City comes down from God Himself (Revelation 21:2).

The Whore is a dwelling place for every kind of demon and for all kinds of abominations (Revelation 17:5, 18:2). Whereas The New Jerusalem is Holy where God Himself dwells and the Bride of Christ is Holy because she is redeemed by His Blood (Revelation 21:3).

The Whore provides fine goods and the merchants become rich by her with earthly goods and riches (Revelation 18:15-19) whereas the heavenly city provides the desires of the soul of no more pain or sorrow and God’s comfort and treasures in heaven (Revelation 21: 4).

Conclusion

In the Revelation 17 and 18 passage we see the profound accuracy of Bible Prophecy in addition to a spiritual picture through the lens of God Himself. In the depiction of the Whore of Babylon compared with the Bride of Christ we see the Bible's message of promise and hope and a picture of the truth of the Gospel, the redemptive power of the Lord Jesus Christ and the promise of eternity for those who believe.

The Bible's message is clear and the promise is open to everyone. At the end of the book of Revelation is an invitation from Christ Himself, Revelation 22: 17 invites, "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely."

Jesus provides the living waters, consider these verses:

John 4: 13-14:

Jesus answered and said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

John 7:38:

"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water."

It is a simple message, believe in Jesus Christ as the son of God and his redemptive work on the cross and you too can partake in the promise of eternal life and the Heavenly City that is described in the Revelation. If you have not made that decision I urge you to make it today.

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